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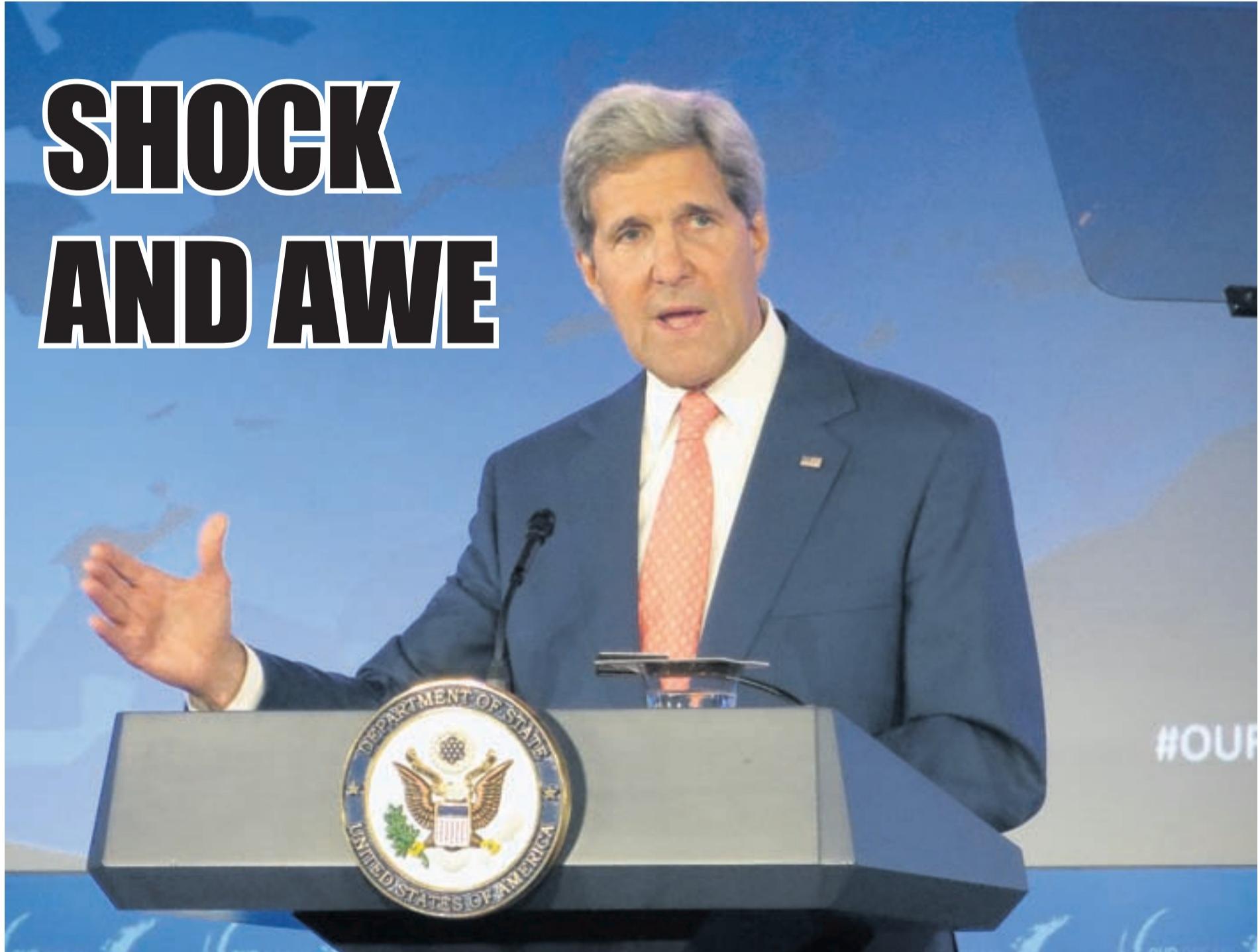
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Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Tuesday, June 17, 2014

SHOCK AND AWE



Secretary of State John Kerry addresses the Our Ocean conference, Monday, June 16, 2014, at the State Department in Washington. The Obama administration is willing to talk with Iran over deteriorating security conditions in Iraq and is not ruling out potential U.S.-Iranian military cooperation in stemming the advance of Sunni extremists, Kerry said Monday.

(AP Photo/Lauren Victoria Burke)

US and Iran Signaling Cooperation in Iraq Crisis

HAMZA HENDAWI

QASSIM ZAHRA

BAGHDAD (AP) — In a sign of Iran's deepening involvement in the Iraqi crisis, the commander of Tehran's

elite Quds Force is helping Iraq's military and Shiite militias gear up to fight the Sunni insurgents advancing across the country, officials said Monday.

Washington signaled a new willingness work with Iran to help the Iraqi government stave off the insurgency after years of trying to limit Tehran's influence in Bagh-

dad — a dramatic shift that would have been unthinkable a few weeks ago. The United States is deploying up to 275 military troops to Iraq to protect the U.S.

Embassy and other American interests and is considering sending a contingent of Special Forces soldiers.

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For Biden in Brazil: World Cup and Diplomacy

SIMON ROMERO

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RIO DE JANEIRO — Seeking an opening during the World Cup soccer tournament to thaw relations with Brazil, Vice President Joe Biden arrived in Latin America's largest country Monday, expressing a desire to "rebuild trust" after the souring of ties over revela-

meeting Tuesday with Brazil's president, Dilma Rousseff, that the Obama administration was hoping to discuss a range of issues including trade and efforts to lure more Brazilians to study in U.S. universities. While Rousseff had shown indignation last year after news reports revealed that the NSA had spied on her

matured," said Rousseff, 66, emphasizing that she still felt it was "extremely lamentable" for the NSA surveillance to have occurred. Still, she said, pointing to resilient trade ties: "From Brazil's point of view, the relationship with the United States is a strategic one. We're the two largest democracies in the hemi-

relations with Russia remain tense over the intervention in Ukraine, rekindling bonds with Brazil gives Washington a chance to raise its diplomatic profile in Latin America during the World Cup.

And for Rousseff, warming again to the United States, which is Brazil's second-largest trading partner after China, enables her to burnish foreign policy credentials in advance of presidential elections in October as rivals criticize her administration's close ties with leftist governments in nations including Venezuela and Cuba.

Curiously, Rousseff, a former Marxist guerrilla who has evolved into a moderate leftist, and Biden, a foreign policy authority in the Senate before becoming vice president, appear to have developed a strong rapport. At a dinner in Brasília this month with foreign correspondents, a relaxed Rousseff jokingly called Biden "very seductive."

However, both Brasília and Washington still seem to be approaching their strained ties with caution.

In an interview published Monday by the Brazilian newspaper Folha de S. Paulo, Biden said the invitation for Rousseff to attend a state dinner still stands, but he did not say whether the Obama administration would issue an apology for the NSA spying, as Rousseff had requested. □



U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, center, watches the group G World Cup soccer match between Ghana and the United States at the Arena das Dunas in Natal, Brazil, Monday, June 16, 2014.

(AP Photo/Julio Cortez)

tions of the National Security Agency's surveillance practices.

While Biden ostensibly traveled to Natal in northeast Brazil to watch the United States play Ghana, he made it clear ahead of a

and her top aides, pushing her to postpone a state visit to Washington, she said in an interview in Brasília this month that she was also prepared to repair ties with the United States. "I think the conditions have

sphere."

For both countries, the stars may be aligning for repairing ties after nearly a year in which the relationship had stalled. As Iraq is roiled by the advances of Sunni rebel extremists and

Greenpeace loses \$5.2M on rogue employee trading

TOBY STERLING
Associated Press

AMSTERDAM (AP) — Greenpeace has suffered a 3.8 million-euro (\$5.2 million) loss on an ill-timed bet in the currency market by a well-intentioned — if reckless — employee in its finance department.

The environmental group, which is based in Amsterdam, said Monday the employee — who had bet the euro would not strengthen against other currencies in 2013, when it did — had acted beyond the limits of his authority.

Greenpeace International

fired the employee, whom it did not identify, but said there was no evidence of fraud. "Every indication is, this was done with the best of intentions but not the best of judgment," said spokesman Mike Townsley in a telephone interview from Mexico.

He said the organization was deeply concerned that the incident would offend its supporters, and apologized. Greenpeace does not accept contributions from companies or governments and is funded entirely by individuals. Responsibility lies partly with

the employee and partly with the organization, Townsley said.

The employee was a financial expert whose job included currency trades to protect the organization from fluctuations in the market. He was not qualified, however, to undertake trades on the scale he did, Townsley said. In addition, he ignored company rules, under which he should have checked with supervisors and probably hired an external expert for advice on how to manage risks, Townsley added.

"Hindsight is 20/20, but we

believe if he had followed rules and procedures this wouldn't have happened," said Townsley.

He said the employee was fired for ignoring rules, not for the loss itself, which — although sizeable compared with donor contributions — amounts to a fraction of the organization's annual revenues of around 300 million euros (\$406 million).

Gerald Steinberg, the president of NGO Monitor, which studies accountability at nonprofit organizations, said he wasn't familiar with Greenpeace's finances. □

NOTEWORTHY

ING sets pricing range for IPO of insurance arm

AMSTERDAM (AP) — ING Group NV says it has set a pricing range for the sale of its European insurance arm that indicates the business is worth roughly 7 billion euros (\$9.5 billion). ING is separating its banking and insurance units as part of a deal with the European Union to compensate for having taken state aid to survive the financial crisis of 2008. The company said Monday it will sell 70 million shares in the business, or a 20 percent stake, at 18.50-22.00 euros each, raising around 1.4 billion euros. NN Group will begin trading on the Euronext stock exchange July 2 after a final price is set. ING must sell the remaining shares by the end of 2016. The proceeds will go to cut debt. □

Antigua, China investors plan big tourism project

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — The new government of Antigua & Barbuda has signed an agreement with Chinese investors to build a major development project in the twin-island Caribbean nation. Gaston Browne became prime minister on Friday after leading his Labor Party to victory in elections. Over the weekend, he signed a memorandum of agreement with a Chinese company for a \$740 million project on Guiana Island and nearby land. The 460-acre (184-hectare) island was previously owned by convicted Ponzi schemer R. Allen Stanford. Developers would have to buy the land from liquidators. The Labor Party announced late Sunday that Browne signed the agreement with Yida Zhang, director of Yida International Investment Antigua. Plans call for the construction of five hotels, 1,300 residential units, a casino and marina. □

Obama to sign order extending gays' protections

JULIE PACE
AP White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama plans to sign an executive order banning federal contractors from discriminating against employees on the basis of their sexual orientation or gender identity, the White House said Monday. The president has resisted signing the order in hopes Congress would pass a broader non-discrimination measure that would apply to nearly all employers. While the Senate passed the legislation last year, the measure has languished in the Republican-led House and there is little sign that lawmakers will take it up in an election year.

"We've been waiting for quite a few months now for the house to take action and unfortunately there are no particularly strong indications that Congress is prepared to act on this," White House spokesman Josh Earnest said.

The White House's announcement was a significant victory for gay rights advocates, who widely praised Obama's decision. While Obama lacks the authority to extend that protection to all Americans, the order being drafted by the White House would impact about 14 million workers whose employers or states currently do not ban workplace discrimination against gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals.

The scope of the measure was tabulated by the Williams Institute at UCLA Law School, which studies sexual orientation and gender identity law and public policy.

"By issuing an executive order prohibiting federal contractors from discriminating against LGBT people, the president will not only create fairer workplaces across the country, he will demonstrate to Congress that adopting federal employment protections for LGBT people is good policy and good for business," said Chad Griffin, president of the Human Rights Campaign.

Officials would not say when Obama would sign the order or why the administration was taking the unusual step of previewing his plans for issuing such a measure.

The announcement comes a day before Obama attends the Democratic National Committee's annual gay and lesbian fundraiser in New York. While the president has widespread political support among the LGBT community, advocates have become increasingly irritated with the president's reluctance to move forward with the order.

Their frustration mounted earlier this year when Obama responded to gridlock in Congress by touting plans to take executive actions on issues that Congress would not act on. That included signing executive orders that raise the minimum wage for federal contractors and expanding the number of contractors who would be eligible for overtime pay.

White House officials never explained why Obama moved quickly on the wage-related executive orders but delayed taking action on the anti-discrimination provision.

Obama's decision could energize progressive voters in a midterm election year where Republicans are seeking to retake control of the Senate. The DNC and several Democratic lawmakers highlighted the president's announcement Monday and used it to try to draw a distinction with Republicans.

Republicans were largely silent on the decision, though Utah Sen. Orrin Hatch called on the White House to include the same religious exemptions in the order that are included in the legislation the Senate passed last year. The bill includes exemptions for churches and other houses of worship, as well as religiously affiliated organizations.

While the White House did not release the specific language of the order Obama will sign, advocates expect it to be in line with mea-

sures signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson that banned federal contrac-

tors from discriminating on the basis of race, religion, and national origin. It's un-

clear whether Obama's order will include religious exemptions. □



President Barack Obama walks from the residence to the Oval Office of the White House after returning from a trip to California, Monday, June 16, 2014, in Washington.

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)



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Supreme Court allows challenge to law banning lies in elections

ADAM LIPTAK

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WASHINGTON - The Supreme Court on Monday allowed a challenge to an Ohio law banning lies in political campaigns to move forward and turned back a challenge to a law concerning gun purchases.

The court ruled unanimously that two advocacy groups could challenge an Ohio law that makes it a crime to make knowingly or recklessly false statements about political candidates that are intended to help elect or defeat them. The first offense could lead to six months in jail and the second could lead to disenfranchisement.

Lower courts had dismissed the case, saying the groups seeking to challenge it had not faced imminent harm sufficient to give them standing to sue. Justice Clarence Thomas, writing for the court, said the groups "have alleged

a credible threat of enforcement" of the law and so were not barred from pursuing their challenge to it. The case was brought by Susan B. Anthony List, an anti-abortion group, and Coalition Opposed to Additional Spending and Taxes. Both had sought to criticize Steve Driehaus, a Democrat, in the midst of what turned out to be his unsuccessful 2010 run for re-election to the House of Representatives. They asserted that his vote in favor of the Affordable Care Act could be interpreted as one "for taxpayer-funded abortion." The Supreme Court took no position on the truth of that statement. By a 5-4 vote, the court allowed a prosecution under a federal law that requires gun buyers to disclose that they are making their purchase for someone else, even if both the straw buyer and the real one are eligible to own guns.

The case involved Bruce

Abramski, a former police officer in Virginia who bought a handgun for his uncle, Angel Alvarez, who lived in Pennsylvania. At the gun store, Abramski

pleaded guilty to making a false statement but reserved the right to appeal. He was sentenced to five years of probation. Writing for the majority in

vative ones, Justice Elena Kagan rejected Abramski's argument that his misstatement had been immaterial because the federal law meant only to make



Guns, including an AR-15 semi-automatic rifle, for sale at a shop in Pasadena, Maryland. The Supreme Court on June 16, 2014, upheld a federal law making it illegal for someone to purchase a gun without disclosing who it is for.

(Steve Ruark/The New York Times)

filled out a federal form indicating that he was buying the gun for himself.

a case that divided the court's more liberal members from its more conser-

sure that the immediate buyer was eligible to own a gun. □

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Hair-hanging circus acrobats hire law firm

MICHELLE R. SMITH
Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island (AP) — Seven of the eight hair-hanging circus acrobats who fell to the floor during a "human chandelier" stunt in the U.S. last month have hired a law firm to represent them, the firm announced Monday. The women were injured during a May 4 performance of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus in eastern Rhode Island state when the apparatus from which they were suspended fell, sending them plummeting about 20 feet (6 meters).

Lawyer Michael Krzak of Clifford Law Offices said the Chicago-based firm was recently hired and had not filed a lawsuit, but it is conducting an in-depth investigation into what happened. He said the firm plans to make available four of the injured acrobats to speak at a news conference Tuesday at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital in Boston, although that number could change depending on their conditions.

The injured acrobats are from the U.S., Brazil, Bulgaria and Ukraine.

While one of the acrobats, Samantha Pitard, was released from the hospital within days, some have severe injuries, and doctors have said it's not clear whether two with spinal cord injuries will walk again. The law firm said some of the women are undergoing physical therapy. Some are still using wheelchairs and it's unknown to what extent they will regain the full use of their limbs. Some of the women require more surgery.

Starbucks to offer free college education to workers

RICHARD PÉREZ-PÉNA

© 2014 New York Times

Starbucks will provide a free, online college education to thousands of its workers, without requiring that they remain with the company, through an unusual arrangement with Arizona State University, the company and the university will announce Monday. The program is open to any of the company's 135,000 U.S. employees, provided they work at least 20 hours a week and have the grades and test scores to gain admission to Arizona State. For a barista with at least two years of college credit, the company will pay full tuition; for those with fewer credits it will pay part of the cost, but even for many of them, courses will be free, with government and university aid.

"Starbucks is going where no other major corporation has gone," said Jamie P. Merisotis, president and chief executive of the Lumina Foundation, a group focused on education. "For many of these Starbucks employees, an online university education is the only reasonable way they're going to get a bachelor's degree."

Many employers offer tuition reimbursement. But those programs usually come with limitations like the full cost not being paid, new employees being excluded, requiring that workers stay for years afterward, or limiting reimbursement to work-related courses.

Starbucks is, in effect, inviting its workers, from the day they join the company, to study whatever they like, and then leave whenever they like - knowing that many of them, degrees in hand, will leave for better-paying jobs.

Even if they did, their expe-

rience "would be accreted to our brand, our reputation and our business," Howard D. Schultz, the company's chairman and chief executive, said in an interview. "I believe it will lower attrition, it'll increase performance, it'll attract and retain better people."

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for online education, was scheduled to join Schultz and Arne Duncan, the education secretary, to announce the program Monday in New York.

Arizona State has one of the largest online degree programs in the United States, with 11,000 students and 40 undergraduate ma-

college degree. "I'm the only one in the family with a steady job," he said. In fact, he has two jobs - one at Starbucks, and another at a music studio.

While studying at a community college, he discovered classical music, and fell in love with Chopin, Bach and Beethoven, though at



Tammie Lopez, center, who works a full-time job at Starbucks and attends community college at night, works her shift in San Fernando, Calif., June 13, 2014. Through an unusual arrangement with Arizona State University, Starbucks will provide free, online college education to thousands of its workers -- without requiring they remain with the company.

(Monica Almeida/The New York Times)

dustry, Starbucks has for decades been unusual, doing things such as providing health insurance, even for part-timers, and giving its employees stock options. (Like other food and drink chains, it has also been accused of using improper hardball tactics in fighting unionization drives.)

Whether in spite of those perks or because of them, the company has been highly successful; its stock, which closed Friday at \$74.69, has grown in value more than 100-fold since it went public in 1992.

The president of Arizona State, Michael M. Crow, something of an evangelist

jors, and one of the most highly regarded.

The university and the company say they do not know how many Starbucks employees will take advantage of the program, which includes help with paperwork and academic advising, but they expect thousands to enroll, and Crow said Arizona State has prepared for a major surge in enrollment.

The Starbucks program sounds like a boon to Abraham G. Cervantes, 24, who lives in the San Pedro section of Los Angeles with his mother and two of his brothers, and would be the first in his family to earn a

home he can only practice on a worn-out piano. He said he dreamed of being a professor of music, but after five years spent trying to mesh his class and work schedules, he has not finished his associate's degree.

"Working two jobs, you don't always have time to attend school," he said.

The new Starbucks program "would be a huge benefit to me," Cervantes said, giving him flexibility and eliminating the commute to and from school.

Schultz, the Starbucks chief, said such stories strike a personal chord with him.

With economy hazy, Federal Reserve officials seem unlikely to shift course

MARTIN CRUTSINGER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) —

When Federal Reserve officials gather this week and Fed Chair Janet Yellen speaks with reporters, investors will be seeking clues to two big questions: When will the Fed finally start raising short-term interest rates?

And how — and when — will it start unloading its

the IMF's previous estimate of 2.7 percent.

Yellen has suggested that the U.S. unemployment rate, now 6.3 percent, overstates the health of the job market and economy. She's also expressed concern that a high percentage of the unemployed — 35 percent — have been out of work for six months or more and that pay is scarcely rising

keep long-term loan rates low to stimulate the economy.

The Fed will likely end its bond purchases this fall, with its investment portfolio nearing \$4.5 trillion. But officials have said that even when they stop buying bonds, they don't plan to start selling any. They plan to keep the Fed's holdings steady by re-investing maturing bonds.



Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott, right, stands with Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew, left, and Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen, in Washington. When Federal Reserve officials gather this week and Fed Chair Janet Yellen speaks with reporters, investors will be seeking clues as to what action, if any, the Fed will take.

vast investment holdings? The answers will affect loan rates for individuals and businesses — and perhaps the direction of the economy. Yet few expect to hear anything definitive. The Fed remains in a tentative wait-and-see stance. Though the central bank has signaled optimism, officials are unsure how much the economy will strengthen the rest of the year. On Wednesday, the Fed will update its forecasts, and it may downgrade its estimate of growth for 2014 after the government said last month that the economy shrank in the first quarter, depressed by a harsh winter.

On Monday, the International Monetary Fund predicted that the U.S. economy will grow a modest 2 percent this year, below

for people who do have jobs.

Yet the Fed is getting closer to acting. The minutes of its last meeting in late April indicated that the Fed has begun discussing the tools it could use to finally pull back the extraordinary stimulus it's provided the U.S. economy since 2008. This week's meeting is the third at which Yellen will preside as chair since succeeding Ben Bernanke in February. Analysts expect at least one announcement when the two-day policy meeting ends Wednesday: That the Fed will make a fourth \$10 billion cut in the pace of its monthly bond purchases to \$35 billion, a sign of a steadily, if slowly, improving economy. The Fed has been buying Treasury and mortgage bonds to try to

In doing so, the Fed will still exert downward pressure on long-term rates.

The Fed has said it will keep its key short-term rate at a record low near zero for a "considerable time" after its bond purchases end. At her news conference, Yellen will likely avoid being pinned down on how long a "considerable time" might be. Last month, she said the Fed expects to start raising rates once it sees enough progress in restoring full employment and inflation has risen to its 2 percent target rate.

Most Fed members expect the Fed to start raising short-term rates between mid-2015 and 2016. The central bank has stressed that even after it starts raising rates, it will likely keep them unusually low to support the economy. □

Judge: J.C. Penney interfered with Macy's pact with Stewart

ANNE D'INNOCENZIO

AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — A New York State Supreme Court judge ruled in favor of Macy's claim that J.C. Penney interfered with a contract with Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia Inc. when it cut a deal to create a collection of home goods in 2011.

But the judge, Jeffrey Oing, said Macy's failed to prove that Penney was liable for punitive damages since he says the actions weren't "malicious" or "immoral." Macy's is still entitled to attorney's fees and other monetary damages from Penney related to the selling of a line of bath towels, pots and other products that were designed by Martha Stewart but were sold under the J.C. Penney Every Day name last year.

The products were covered by a long-standing exclusive contract between Macy's and Martha Stewart. The 63-page decision, issued Monday, came six months after Macy's and Martha Stewart resolved a legal battle to sell home furnishings at Penney. The terms of that deal were not disclosed.

The decision also followed a move last fall by Penney to scale back its merchandising partnership with Martha Stewart. As part of that deal, Penney said that it will no longer sell a broad range of home and bath products designed by Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia Inc. But the company will continue to sell a smaller batch of Martha Stewart items, including window treatments, rugs and party supplies.

"The preponderance of the evidence compels me to find that (Penney's) 'inducement exceeded the minimum level of ethical behavior in the marketplace,' and, as such, was improper," Oing wrote.

But Oing said that Macy's should not be awarded punitive damages since such damages are only proper if Penney's conduct in "perpetrating the tortious interference of contract was wanton, reckless, malicious and evinced a high degree of immorality."

Oing noted the preponderance of evidence demonstrates that Penney's top executives were "less than admirable." "At best, one can only describe such conduct as adolescent hijinks in the worst form," he added. But he said the actions were to gain "an edge in the ever-increasing competitive retail market and to revolutionize the way consumers shop for merchandise."

Penney said last fall that it will be returning to the media and merchandising company the 11 million shares it bought as part of the 2011 licensing deal and giving up two seats on Martha Stewart's board.

The revised agreement was the latest way Penney's returning CEO Mike Ullman is unraveling the botched bid by former CEO Ron Johnson to transform the retailer, which led to disastrous results. Johnson, who became Penney's CEO in November 2011, was ousted in April 2013.

Johnson had signed the 10 year-merchandising deal with Martha Stewart in December 2011 and touted it as a key part of his plan to reinvent the chain. He envisioned small Martha Stewart shops filled with branded products. Penney then invested \$38.5 million in Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia. But a month later, Macy's sued both companies.

"We are delighted, but certainly surprised that the court has found tortious interference by (Penney)," said Macy's in a statement. "It is a great shame that Macy's had to expend time, money and the diversion of its resources in order to protect its rights. We look forward to the damages phase of the case."

Penney officials said that they "respectfully disagree with and are disappointed with this outcome." □

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US Financial Front:

IMF lowers estimate of US economic growth in 2014

JOSH BOAK
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. economy is poised to accelerate after a dismal start to the year even though the job market won't return to full employment until 2017.

That was the forecast offered Monday in a report by the International Monetary Fund.

The IMF noted that steady job gains and other recent data suggest that the economy is rebounding. Employers have added 200,000-plus jobs for four straight months, and the unemployment rate has fallen to 6.3 percent. Auto sales and factory activity are increasing.

Yet growth in 2014 won't likely top last year's lackluster performance, the IMF says. The Washington-based organization foresees the economy growing a modest 2 percent in 2014, below its previous estimate of 2.7 percent. That would be nearly identical to the 1.9 percent growth in 2013. The IMF blames the lingering aftermath of the brutal winters and a sluggish recovery in home sales. Years of disappointing growth mean the economy might not reach full employment — which many economists say is when the unemployment rate is between 5 and 5.5 percent — for three more years.

Christine Lagarde, the IMF's managing director, suggested at a news conference that the past winter shows that another wild card might be holding back the economy



International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Christine Lagarde participates in a television interview, Monday, June 16, 2014, at IMF headquarters in Washington. The IMF foresees the US economy growing a modest 2 percent this year, below its previous estimate of 2.7 percent.

(AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais)

and could make predictions more difficult: climate change.

"Extreme weather occurrences have repeated much more frequently in the past 20 years than the previous century," she stressed. "That's a reason to wonder about climate change and how to deal with it."

Yet the IMF is optimistic that a "renewed dynamism" will propel growth for the rest of 2014, partly offsetting what many analysts think was a contraction of up to 2 percent last quarter.

The unemployment rate has tumbled to 6.3 percent from 7.5 percent in 12 months, evidence of that momentum.

But the IMF cautions that

U.S. wages remain stagnant and the rate of long-term unemployment high. As a result, it urged lawmakers to lift the minimum wage and increase the Earned Income Tax Credit for those with low wages.

The IMF projects that growth will reach 3 percent in 2015, roughly matching the United States' average rate of expansion between 1948 and 2007. But even the 2015 estimate was a downward revision from the IMF's previous forecast that growth next year would be 3.5 percent.

The IMF's projections for 2014 match many recent private forecasts.

"The monthly economic numbers have generally been pretty good recently,

but the weakness of GDP growth in the first quarter suggest that full-year GDP growth is likely to be close to 2 percent," said Ryan Wang, an economist at HSBC Bank.

The IMF also highlighted the challenge for the Federal Reserve to properly time the unwinding of its policies to spur borrowing, investment and spending. Investors appear to be acting with a sense of certainty about Fed policies, even though central banks must respond to uncertainties about the economy, Lagarde said.

Lagarde also suggested that Fed Chair Janet Yellen should increase the number of news conferences she holds to up to six a year from

the current four. Yellen is scheduled to hold one of her quarterly news conferences on Wednesday.

The Fed has kept short-term interest rates near zero to bolster the economy. It has also bought U.S. Treasury and mortgage bonds to keep longer-term rates low, a program the Fed has been unwinding since the start of the year.

Because the IMF projects that the United States won't reach full employment until 2017 and that inflation pressures will stay tame, it thinks the Fed might consider keeping rates near historic lows longer than some market analysts expect.

Raising rates too fast could "constrict the recovery momentum that we have observed," Lagarde said. She added that that would have spillover effects around the world and hurt growth in emerging economies.

Lagarde declined to take a stance on the dispute over payments for natural gas that Ukraine owes Russia. The two countries, embroiled in a broader territorial struggle, missed a Monday deadline to reach an agreement on payments. As a result, the Russian company Gazprom has cut off gas supplies to Ukraine.

"We don't intervene in commercial transactions," Lagarde said. "We certainly hope for the stability of that part of the world and for the stability of the supply of gas that the situation can be addressed promptly and satisfactorily." □



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Gamers' Paradise: New Games to Sink Your Claws Into

CHRIS SUELLENTROP

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LOS ANGELES - One of the hardest things to do at the Electronic Entertainment Expo, the annual video game trade show here, is actually to play video games. Even if you possess a media badge that lets you skip the long lines at the Los Angeles Convention Center, you're often allowed only to watch a developer play a forthcoming game - or worse, watch a video pitch that highlights the concepts that the makers will try to execute during the next year or two.

At times, it can feel like a book expo where you read only proposals or a film festival for screenplay treatments.

But there are games to play, even if they aren't always the newest ones to be announced. At this year's E3, I turned down nearly every theater demo - where you learn next to nothing about how a game feels in your hands, but quite a lot about how much fun it is to watch it being played by someone extremely skilled - so I won't tell you about "Bloodborne," "Metal Gear Solid V," "Call of Duty: Advanced Warfare" and many other highly touted games.

Instead, I stuck to games that I could experience myself, because to understand an interactive medium, you have to interact with it. I put my hands on more than 50 games in four days last week. Here are the ones I'm most excited to play again.

"SPLATOON" - Nintendo's message to the news media this year was the same as the one it disseminated last year: Finally, there are enough games to make the struggling Wii U console

a genuine competitor for Sony's PlayStation 4 and Microsoft's Xbox One. The difference is that this year it may actually be true. "Splatoon" is Nintendo's cartoonish take on the multiplayer shooter, and it's probably the most pure fun I had at E3.

Two teams of four players each battle for control of a

ing the TV screen - Nintendo has begun experimenting more with the controller's use in single-player games, including three prototypes being developed by Shigeru Miyamoto, the designer of "Donkey Kong," "Super Mario Bros.," "The Legend of Zelda" and many other games. But asymmetrical play

computers.

"LUCKY'S TALE" - The Oculus Rift virtual-reality headset doesn't have a release date for a consumer version, but the newest development kit is scheduled to be shipped to game designers in July. After playing several demonstrations over the past year that



Dressed as the Marvel Comics character "Wolverine," Micah Land plays the game "Project Giant Robot" on the Wii U at the annual Electronic Entertainment Expo in Los Angeles.

(Emily Berl/The New York Times)

map by spraying every inch of the floor with colored ink. The twist is that each player can transform into a squid to swim, almost invisibly, through its own paint color. Wandering through the enemy's color slows you down. It's basically squid paintball and is scheduled for release early next year.

"EVOLVE" - Nintendo is still having trouble figuring out how best to make use of the tabletlike controller for the Wii U. After first emphasizing asymmetrical play within the living room - meaning that the player viewing the tablet witnessed something different than those watch-

hasn't gone away. Several new games at E3 pitted players against one another in unequal roles, using the Internet to connect their TV screens. Of these, "Evolve" was the most intriguing and entertaining. Turtle Rock Studios, the developer of "Evolve," helped add cooperation and storytelling to online multiplayer games with its 2006 zombie game, "Left 4 Dead." "Evolve," well, continues that evolution by casting four players as monster hunters against a fifth player who controls the monster. It is to be released on Oct. 21 for PlayStation 4, Xbox One and Windows

have put me inside realistic game worlds, "Lucky's Tale" changed my perception of what's possible in this emergent medium.

From Playful, the company that designed the iPhone game "Words With Friends," "Lucky's Tale" is relatively simple, a less imaginative imitation of a classic like "Super Mario 64."

You aren't the character; you control Lucky just as you would an ordinary game character. Except this time, you feel as if you were physically present in a cartoon with him.

Release date: Your guess is as good as mine.

"ROLLERS OF THE REALM" -

This game has the most ambitious narrative I've seen applied to, of all things, digital pinball. Each ball represents a different character in this fantasy role-playing game.

Each stage is a new pinball level. Each ball has different abilities based on the characters: The rogue, for example, does more damage when it hits enemies from behind. It was definitely the weirdest mashup at E3 and pleasingly strange enough to leave me wanting more. Scheduled for this year on PlayStation 4, PlayStation Vita and personal computers.

"BATMAN: ARKHAM KNIGHT" - The new Batman game from the British developer Rocksteady continues the mix of good looks and fun fights that have characterized this series for the past five years.

A bigger surprise - perhaps the biggest surprise of the show - was "Middle-earth: Shadow of Mordor," in the same Warner Bros. booth. "Arkham Knight" is scheduled for release next year; "Shadow of Mordor" is to arrive Oct. 7 for PlayStation 3, PlayStation 4, Xbox 360, Xbox One and Windows computers.

"THE TALOS PRINCIPLE" - Not everything you can play at E3 is on the show floor. Independent developers hold parties and demonstrations in hotels and bars in downtown Los Angeles (though you can see some indies on the show floor, too, especially at the IndieCade booth).

The indie label Devolver Digital set up some Air-stream trailers in a parking lot across the street from the convention center to showcase its newest. □

US and Iran signaling cooperation in Iraq crisis



Shiite tribal fighters raise their weapons and chant slogans against the al-Qaida-inspired Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in the northwest Baghdad's Shula neighborhood, Iraq, Monday, June 16, 2014. Sunni militants captured a key northern Iraqi town along the highway to Syria early on Monday, compounding the woes of Iraq's Shiite-led government a week after it lost a vast swath of territory to the insurgents in the country's north.

(AP Photo/Karim Kadim)

Continued from front-

But the White House insisted anew the U.S. would not be sending combat troops and thrusting America into a new Iraq war.

The insurgents seized the strategic city of Tal Afar near the Syrian border Monday, part of its goal of linking areas under its control on both sides of the Iraq-Syria frontier. West of Baghdad, an army helicopter was shot down during clashes near the city of Fallujah, killing the two-man crew, security officials said.

The Quds Force commander, Iranian Gen. Ghasem Soleimani, has been consulting in Iraq on how to roll back the al-Qaida-breakaway group, known as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, according to Iraqi security officials.

Soleimani's presence in Iraq is likely to fuel longtime Sunni suspicions about the Shiite-led government's close ties with Tehran.

The security officials said the U.S. government was notified before Soleimani's visit. Soleimani has been inspecting Iraqi defenses and reviewing plans with top commanders and Iranian-backed Iraqi Shiite militias, the officials said. He has set up an operations room to coordinate the militias and visited the holy cities of Najaf and Karbala south of Baghdad, home to the most revered Shiite shrines, and areas west of Baghdad where government forces have faced off with Islamic militants for months.

The Islamic State has vowed to march to Baghdad, Karbala and Najaf in the worst threat to Iraq's stability since U.S. troops left in 2011. A call to arms Friday from Iraq's top Shiite cleric, Iranian-born Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, gave prominence to the need to defend the holy shrines.

Soleimani's visit adds significantly to the sectarian

slant of the mobilization by the government of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki. Armed Shiite militiamen have been parading on the streets and volunteers joining the security forces are chanting Shiite religious slogans.

Al-Maliki rejects charges of sectarianism and points to recruiting efforts by some Sunni clerics, but there is no evidence of Sunnis joining the fight against the Islamic State in significant numbers, if at all.

The legitimacy accorded by his government to the Shiite militias poses a risk of Iraq sliding back into the deadly sectarian bloodshed of 2006 and 2007.

Such tensions were rising months before the Islamic

State's lightning incursion of last week, with thousands killed since late last year. Bombings killed Shiites and security forces as militants took hold of vast territory and at least one city in the mainly Sunni Anbar province west of Baghdad. Soleimani is one of the most powerful figures in Iran's security establishment, and his Quds Force is a secretive branch of Iran's Revolutionary Guard involved in external operations. In the mid-2000s, it organized Shiite militias in a campaign against U.S. troops in Iraq, according to American officials. More recently, it has been involved in helping Syrian President Bashar Assad in his fight against Sunni rebels. □

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Russia cuts gas supply to Ukraine as tensions soar

NATALIYA VASILYEVA

DAVID McHUGH

Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) Russia halted natural gas deliveries to Ukraine on Monday, spurning Ukraine's offer to pay some of its multibillion-dollar gas debt and demanding upfront payments for future supplies.

The decision, coming amid deep tensions over eastern Ukraine, provoked strong words from both sides but does not immediately affect the crucial flow of Russian gas to Europe. Ukraine has enough reserves to last until December, according to the head of its state gas company Naftogaz.

Still, the Russian move could disrupt Europe's long-term energy supplies if the issue is not resolved, analysts said. Previous gas disputes left Ukraine and some Balkan nations shivering for nearly two weeks in the dead of winter.

The gas conflict is part of a wider dispute over whether Ukraine aligns itself with Russia or with the 28-nation European Union and comes amid a crisis in relations following Russia's annexation of Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula in March. Ukraine accuses Russia of supporting an armed separatist insurgency in its eastern regions, which Russia denies.

Ukraine's new president, meanwhile, said Monday that he will propose a detailed peace plan this week that includes a cease-fire with the separatist rebels. But before that happens, the armed forces must secure control over Ukraine's porous border with Russia. President Petro Poroshenko said at a meeting of his national security council.

"As soon as the border is closed, we can imme-

diate declare a cease-fire," he said. "Declaring a cease-fire while the border is open would be irresponsible."

Ukraine, one of the most energy inefficient countries in Europe, has been chronically behind on payments for the Russian natural gas needed to heat its homes and fuel its industries. In addition, Russia had been giving its neighbor cut-rate sweetheart deals on gas for various political reasons, a practice that came to a halt April 1. Russia had demanded \$1.95 billion by Monday for past-due bills. At talks over the weekend in Kiev, Ukraine was ready to accept a compromise of paying \$1 billion now and more later, but Russia rejected the offer, the European Commission said.

Sergei Kupriyanov, spokesman for Russian gas giant Gazprom, said since Ukraine missed the deadline, from now on it had to pay in advance for energy. Yet that's a nearly impos-

sible demand for the cash-strapped nation, which is fighting an insurgency and investigating possibly billions lost to corruption un-

der its former pro-Russian president, Viktor Yanukovich.

EU member states got 24 percent of their gas in 2012

from Russia, according to industry association Eurogas, and about half of that goes through the pipelines across Ukraine.



Russian state-run natural giant Gazprom CEO Alexei Miller gestures during a news conference in Moscow, Russia, Monday, June 16, 2014. Russia on Monday cut gas supplies to Ukraine as a payment deadline passed and negotiators failed to reach a deal on gas prices and unpaid bills amid continued fighting in eastern Ukraine. The decision does not immediately affect the gas flow to Europe, but could disrupt the long-term energy supply to the region if the issue is not resolved, analysts said.

(AP Photo/Pavel Golovkin)

China premier in UK visit to boost trade ties

SYLVIA HUI

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Chinese Premier Li Keqiang arrived Monday in Britain for a visit that includes an unusual meeting with Queen Elizabeth II and talks aimed at boosting fragile diplomatic relations.

The three-day visit — Li's first since he became premier 15 months ago — is expected to focus on trade and investment cooperation in areas including nuclear power, high-speed railways and finance. It will also aim to rebuild political ties that have cooled since Prime Minister David Cameron met with the Dalai Lama

in 2012. Writing in The Times newspaper, Li said one of the goals of his trip was to "present the real China so as to change misperceptions and ease misgivings." Officials have indicated that trade, not thorny political issues, will drive Li's visit. As part of efforts to smooth ties, Britain's Home Office announced Monday that it is launching a service to grant Chinese visitors visas within 24 hours. Businesses and tour agents have been clamoring for Britain's strict visa rules to be relaxed, saying they are turning away valuable Chinese business. Relations between the two countries have gradually

improved after Cameron led a major trade mission to China in December, signing trade deals and attempting to ease the diplomatic strain since he met with the Tibetan spiritual leader — a move that Beijing said amounted to supporting Tibet's independence from Chinese rule.

But signs of tension remained, and a China-Britain human rights meeting was called off in April after a British government report on China's rights record angered Beijing.

Much of the media focus has centered on Li's meeting with the queen Tuesday, after reports circulated that

China had threatened to cancel the trip unless Li was granted the audience.

The reports by The Times and others could not be verified. Nonetheless, experts say the decision to grant Li the meeting even though he is not a head of state was a politically significant gesture that showed how keen Britain is to woo the Chinese.

"It's a way of softening the atmosphere," said Kerry Brown, a professor of Chinese Politics at the University of Sydney.

Li's predecessor, Wen Jiabao, did not meet with the queen when he visited in 2011.

Israel cracks down on Hamas amid search for teens



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu speaks to the media in Tel Aviv, Israel. Netanyahu has condemned Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas' agreement with the militant group, and said he would hold him responsible for the safety of the youths, who disappeared apparently while hitchhiking in the West Bank late Thursday.

(AP Photos/Dan Balilty)

**KARIN LAUB
JOSEF FEDERMAN
Associated Press**

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel warned Monday it would exact a heavy price from Hamas, as a massive search for three missing Jewish seminary students turned into the widest crackdown on the Islamic militant group in the West Bank in almost a decade.

Israel has blamed Hamas for the apparent abductions, without providing proof, and has arrested more than 150 Palestinians since the three teens disappeared in the West Bank late Thursday.

Most of those rounded up were from Hamas, including activists and political leaders, among them 10 members of the non-functioning Palestinian parliament. Israel's Security Cabinet discussed further steps Monday, reportedly including the possible deportation of Hamas leaders from the West Bank to the Gaza Strip, where Hamas is in control. Defense Minister Moshe Yaalon said Hamas has begun "paying a heavy price, both in terms of arrests and assets," suggesting the aim is to try to dismantle the Hamas infrastructure in the West Bank. It's not clear how far Israel will go, though, considering the risk of a conflagration in the West Bank after several

years of relative calm. Meanwhile, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has used the abductions to try to discredit Western-backed Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and the unity government Abbas formed with Hamas backing earlier this month. Netanyahu claimed Abbas

is ultimately responsible for the fate of the teens and alleged the Palestinian leader's new alliance with the Islamic militants created an atmosphere that encouraged the apparent kidnapping. Abbas and Netanyahu spoke by phone Monday, a rare contact between the

two. Netanyahu's office said the Israeli prime minister asked Abbas for help with the search.

"The Hamas kidnappers came from territory under Palestinian Authority control and returned to territory under Palestinian Authority control," Netanyahu told Abbas, referring to the

areas where Palestinians have limited self-rule.

Abbas aides have rejected Netanyahu's contention, saying Israel is in overall control of the West Bank. The junction where the teens were last seen is under full Israeli security control and is commonly used by soldiers and settlers. □



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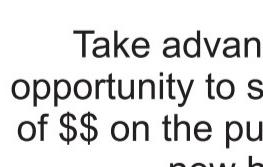
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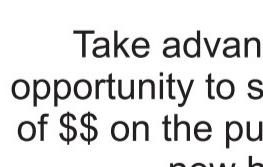
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Pressure on Santos to reach peace for Colombia

FRANK BAJAK
LIBARDO CARDONA

Associated Press

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) —

The pressure is on President Juan Manuel Santos to accelerate peace efforts after pinning his re-election on 18-month-old negotiations to end Colombia's half-century conflict.

Santos is promising to devote all his energies to peace. But, unlike in his first four-year term, he could face serious opposition in Congress from adherents of Alvaro Uribe, the hard-line former president viewed by many as the true challenger in Sunday's runoff.

Santos defeated Uribe's hand-picked candidate, former finance minister Oscar Zuluaga, winning 53 percent to 47 percent of the ballots cast for candi-



President Juan Manuel Santos, center, celebrates his victory in the presidential runoff, with first lady Maria Clemencia Rodriguez, left, and his daughter Maria Antonia Santos at his campaign headquarters in Bogota, Colombia.

(AP Photo/Javier Galeano)

dates. More than 600,000 voters, or 4 percent of those who turned out at

polls, cast "blank" ballots as a protest.

In last month's first-round

ballot, Zuluaga won more votes than Santos, but the incumbent secured his re-

election by mustering what analysts called an impressive political machine, particularly on the Caribbean coast. The political left also endorsed him.

While Zuluaga graciously conceded defeat, Uribe cried foul Sunday night, alleging "the biggest corruption in history" had occurred and suggesting Santos' campaign used leftist rebels to intimidate voters. Independent election monitors reported no major irregularities and the head of the Organization of American States mission, former Costa Rican President Jose Maria Figueres, said Monday that he had received no formal complaint from Uribe.

Figueres called the election "the most peaceful and tranquil in this country's history." □

Dozens killed as militants attack Kenyan coastal town

© 2014 New York Times

NAIROBI, Kenya - At least 48 people were killed when dozens of militants attacked a Kenyan coastal

town overnight, targeting a police station and two hotels, officials said Monday. The government blamed a Somali extremist group,

al-Shabab, for the latest in a series of deadly assaults on civilians and foreigners in Kenya. On its Twitter account, al-Shabab claimed

responsibility for the attack "as a retaliation for Muslim clerics killed in Mombasa," a port city on the Indian Ocean.

"Kenya is now officially a war zone," al-Shabab said in a statement, "and as such any tourists visiting the country do so at their own peril."

The violence began Sunday evening as residents of Mpeketoni, a town near the tourist resort of Lamu Island, were watching World Cup soccer matches on television, officials said. Residents had been watching a match at the Breeze View Hotel when the attackers took aside some of the men and gunned them down in front of the women.

The authorities said that gunmen emerged from two minibuses before starting the assault, in which at least one police officer was killed. Some panicked residents ran for cover in nearby bushes as the shooting began, the police said.

Joseph Ole Lenku, Kenya's Cabinet secretary for the interior, said at a news conference that "the perpetrators of this heinous act will be pursued to the full

force of the law."

The Kenyan military pushed into Somalia in 2011 in an effort to drive al-Shabab back, but since then, attacks inside Kenya have only increased. The latest killings are sure to intensify the debate already brewing in Kenya about what to do with the several thousand Kenyan troops inside Somalia.

Kenya's border with Somalia is porous, essentially a line in the desert, and although Western officials have been urging the Kenyan security services to watch it more closely, it seems militants are able to come and go at will, often with disastrous consequences.

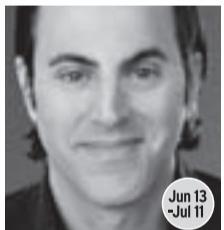
In September, four gunmen from the group targeted an upscale mall in Nairobi, the Kenyan capital, killing at least 67 people. In May, twin explosions hit a market area in central Nairobi, killing 10 people and injuring 76 others.

In response, the Kenyan authorities have sought to beef up security, interrogating thousands of immigrants, refugees and members of Kenya's large Somali community. □

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LOCAL Aruba TODAY

At Carpe Diem Restaurant; Spectacular Pre-Wedding Reception for Sarita Btesh and Harry Tawil

ORANJESTAD - A record number of guests, 560, hailing from Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico, USA, and Israel converged on Aruba for a one-of-a-kind wedding celebration. The welcome night reception at Carpe Diem Restaurant on the waterfront in Oranjestad was a gift offered to the soon-to-be-wed by the bride's uncles and aunts, directed by Laura and Max Waich. Chef Avi Barak and his team from Rimonim Servi-

is labeled with an antique coin found in the Winery's barrel aging cave.

Event planner Lisi Korn Oksemberg, of Forever Events, assisted by Brittany Peitsmeyer recruited a famous DJ in Panama, who flew in especially for the party, and entertained guests to the wee-hours.

Fransica van Esta Tjallin-gii, Manager Carpe Diem Restaurant reports that the Btesh live in Panama, yet the father of the bride also owns several popular



cio de Catering Panama, which flew in on the occasion, took care of all special food needs for the duration of the group's stay on the island, at the Ritz Carlton, and food at the Carpe Diem Restaurant reception consisted of traditional Jewish dishes, paired with the M-Series PSAGOT wine from the Judean Hills, in Israel, where each bottle

stores in Aruba, such as Lacoste, Crocs and Juicy Lucy and picked Aruba as the dream-wedding destination for his beloved daughter Sarita, with the welcome night reception off site, on the waterfront in Oranjestad, at Carpe Diem Restaurant legendary for its unique and original decor, and gracious, professional service. □



Get Inspired with Great Design Trends at EQ3!



ORANJESTAD - The Sofa is the heart of any living space in the home, and is essential in bringing friends & family together.

The location of the sofa

sets the mood for room, whether it be against a wall or taking up the middle of the room and can open a space right up or close it right off. A sofa can say

a lot about the person you are, it can be rustic and traditional, or clean and modern.

With EQ3 we wish for you to be inspired with our great



designs, as we offer everything from clean and modern sofas, to a more modern rustic style.

The elegant furniture from EQ3 is characterized by clean, delicate lines and practical design concept. Choosing a new sofa is not an easy task. One should take into account the room size and the color scheme. The sofa design is something that is customizable to your lifestyle, and how you use your sofa; whether minimalist, classic or extravagant.

The range of EQ3 products vary in design in order to suit everyone's taste. The stronger the color, the better the first impression. A col-

orful piece of furniture defines the space and gives it individuality.

A sleek sofa design in neutral colors, however, can be decorated neatly with colorful pillows and accessories to give the space more depth and definition. The comfortable modular sofa set by EQ3 is a multi-functional piece of furniture.

On the sofa you can take a little nap and in addition it is suitable for family celebrations, meetings with friends and parties.

It is important that your guests feel at home and this attractive sofa design gives the room character and identity. □

Loyal Visitors Honored

PALM BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a group of loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba, at the Paradise Beach Villas as Distinguished Visitors and Ambassadors of Goodwill.

The symbolic honorary titles are presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 and 20-or-more consecutive years.

The honorees were Robert and Peggy Belavich of Toms River, New Jersey, Gerard and Elizabeth Mangini of Spring Lake, New Jersey, and Roger and Paulette Rigolli of Brooklyn, New York. They all love the people and the weather on Aruba!

The certificates were presented by Ernest Giel of the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Milca Erasmus representing the Paradise Beach Villas. □



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Mar (pool deck), Playa Linda resort next to the juice bar, Holiday Inn Desk and at the Concierge & Pelican Pier desk located between Holiday Inn hotel & Playa Linda Resort.

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ORANJESTAD - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fisherman of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad. Driftwood owner Herby

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SPORTS

Aruba TODAY



This 1999 file photo shows San Diego Padres' Tony Gwynn.
Associated Press

Hall of Famer Tony Gwynn dies of cancer at 54

BERNIE WILSON
AP Sports Writer

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Tony Gwynn, an eight-time batting champion and an All-Star for almost his entire 20-year Major League Baseball career, has died of cancer at 54.

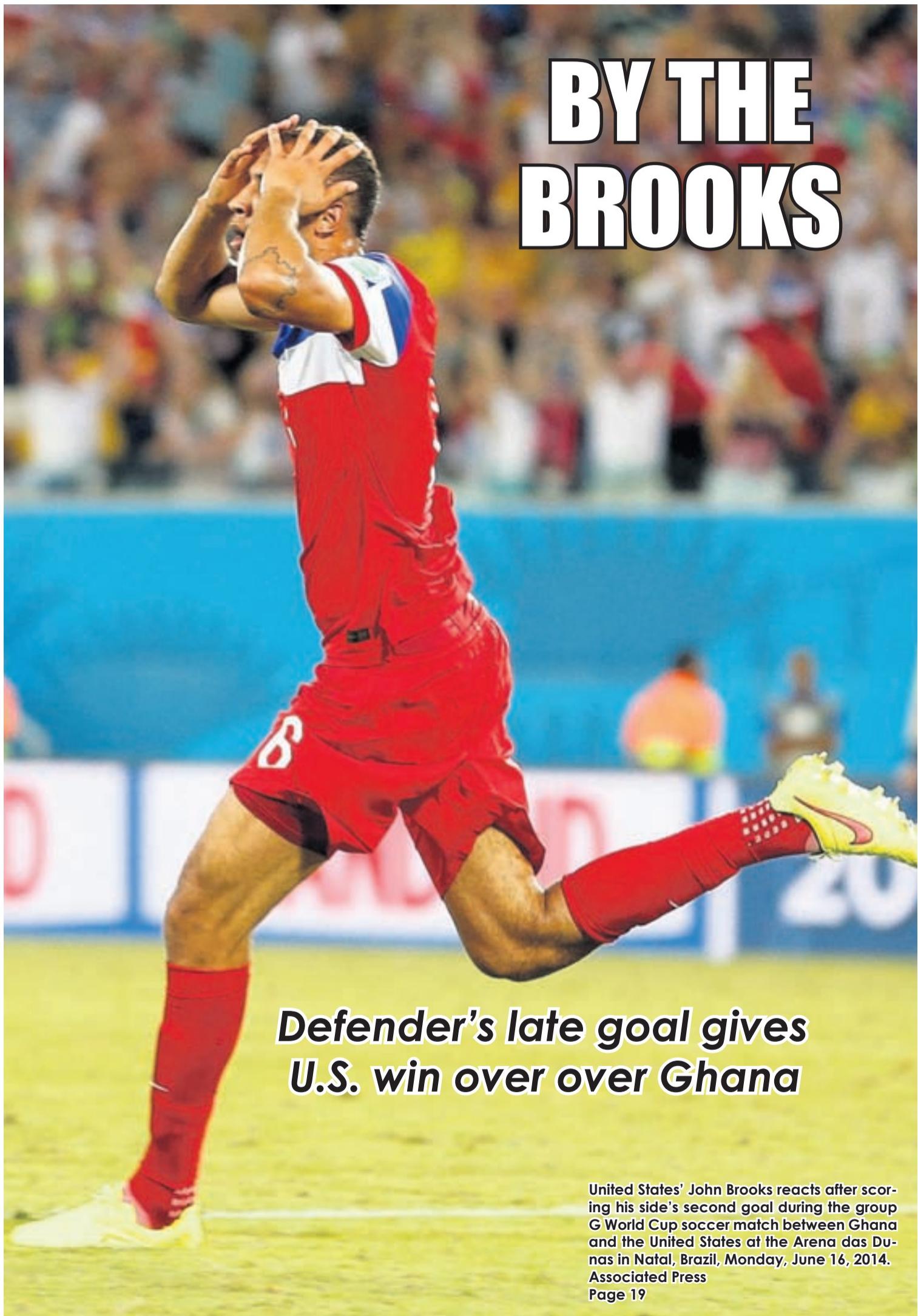
Gwynn's sweet left-handed swing made him one of San Diego's best-loved athletes. He was nicknamed "Mr. Padre," and inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 2007.

"For more than 30 years, Tony Gwynn was a source of universal goodwill in the national pastime, and he will be deeply missed by the many people he touched," Commissioner Bud Selig said.

Gwynn had been on a medical leave from his job as baseball coach at San Diego State, his alma mater, since late March. Agent John Boggs said Gwynn died on Monday at a hospital in suburban Poway.

Gwynn had two operations for cancer in his right cheek from August 2010 to February 2012.

BY THE BROOKS



Defender's late goal gives U.S. win over over Ghana

United States' John Brooks reacts after scoring his side's second goal during the group G World Cup soccer match between Ghana and the United States at the Arena das Dunas in Natal, Brazil, Monday, June 16, 2014.
Associated Press
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FIFA WORLD CUP BRASIL 2014

Rough or not, Kaymer was the star of this U.S. Open

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

PINEHURST, North Carolina

(AP) — Two days into the U.S. Open, it didn't look like one.

No one ever began the toughest test in golf with consecutive rounds of 65. Martin Kaymer set the 36-hole scoring record at 130 amid complaints that a restored, rustic Pinehurst No. 2 without traditional rough was making it too easy.

Or maybe Kaymer was simply that good.

One question that came up Saturday morning is worth asking again after the "Germanator" produced the second-lowest score in U.S. Open history (271) with an eight-shot victory in which he led by at least four shots over the last 48 holes.

If this had been Tiger Woods, would anyone be talking so much about the golf course?

"I can remember we got some criticism in 2000



Martin Kaymer, of Germany, poses with trophy after winning the U.S. Open golf tournament in Pinehurst, N.C., Sunday, June 15, 2014.

Associated Press

because Tiger shot 12 still stands as the greatest performance in the majors. "And I kind of scratched my head thinking, 'OK, the best score for the other 155

players was 3 over."

This is the other side of a double standard that applies to Woods, through no fault of his own. When he wins big — and he has done that a lot in his career — it's all about the player. Anyone else and something was wrong with the golf course.

Pinehurst No. 2 was a worthy test.

Take the 29-year-old German out of the equation and there would have been a playoff Monday between Rickie Fowler and Erik Compton, who won the B Flight at this U.S. Open. They were the only other players to finish under par. Isn't that typical of a U.S. Open?

The USGA keeps data known as "cost of rough," a peculiar term after touting Pinehurst No. 2 as having no rough. The cost of missing the fairway this week was .286 shots, compared with .303 when the U.S. Open first came to Pinehurst in 1999 (Payne

Stewart won at 1-under 279), and .368 in 2005 when Michael Campbell won at even par.

Pay attention to the game, not the name.

"I think we all were playing for second," Compton said.

"Martin was playing his own tournament," Fowler said. These are similar to the sentiments shared after Woods destroyed the field at Pebble Beach, and Rory McIlroy did the same at Congressional in 2011.

McIlroy set the U.S. Open scoring record on a rain-softened course at 16-under 268 to win by eight shots. Twenty players finished under par that week. Perhaps that's why McIlroy said he considered Kaymer's performance at Pinehurst No. 2 to be more impressive.

Kaymer had been a forgotten star the last two years as he worked to build a complete game. McIlroy helped make golf fans forget about Kaymer, too. He is younger than Kaymer (by just over four years), and rose to stardom by winning two majors by eight shots in consecutive years.

Kaymer won his first major at Whistling Straits in 2010 at a PGA Championship remembered for Dustin Johnson's blunder in the bunker.

Overlooked in the final hour of chaos was the clutch tee shot by Kaymer on the 223-yard 17th hole along Lake Michigan, and a 15-foot birdie putt that tied Bubba Watson going into the last hole of the playoff. He won a World Golf Championship in Shanghai at the end of 2011 with nine birdies over the last 12 holes to close with 63.

CTony Gwynn

Continued from page 17



In this Oct. 7, 2001 file photo, San Diego Padres' Tony Gwynn fights back tears as he acknowledges the standing ovation prior to the Padres' game against the Colorado Rockies, the final game of his career, in San Diego.

Associated Press

The second surgery was complicated, with surgeons removing a facial nerve because it was intertwined with a tumor inside his right cheek. They grafted a nerve from Gwynn's neck to help him eventually regain facial movement. Gwynn said he believed the cancer was from chewing tobacco.

In a rarity in pro sports, Gwynn spent his entire MLB career with the Padres, choosing to stay rather than leaving for bigger paychecks elsewhere. His terrific hand-eye coordination made him one of the

game's greatest contact hitters. He had 3,141 hits, a career .338 batting average and won eight National League batting titles.

Gwynn played in the Padres' only two World Series and was a 15-time All-Star, scoring the winning run in the 1994 All-Star Game.

Dempsey, Brooks give U.S. 2-1 win over Ghana

JIM VERTUNO
AP Sports Writer

NATAL, Brazil (AP) — After Clint Dempsey's historic early goal, the United States spent more than an hour struggling to hold off wave after wave of Ghana attacks. It was no surprise when Ghana tied the game in the 82nd minute. Once again, the Black Stars — who had eliminated the Americans at the past two World Cups — were poised to ruin the tournament for the U.S.

With two starters out with injuries, the U.S. barely threatened in the second half until a corner kick in the 86th minute. Graham Zusi lifted the ball into the penalty area, where fellow substitute John Brooks rose above the defense and headed in the game winner, putting the U.S. atop the group with Germany.

"I couldn't believe it. ... I just ran in the box and hoped that the ball would hit my head and it did," said Brooks, a 6-foot-4 defender who is brought forward for set pieces.

The loss put Ghana at the bottom of Group G with Portugal — the Americans'

next opponent. The top two teams in the group advance.

At the final whistle, coach Jurgen Klinsmann, the German hired to transform the U.S. from mere World Cup participant into a potential power, threw his arms to the sky and roared.

"The U.S. team always has great spirit," Klinsmann said. "I said it to the bench minutes before we're going to get some chances still. So we are still in the game after the equalizer, we just need to kind of push and push and grind it out. That's what they did. Here comes a set piece we trained over and over and over that stuff. And (Brooks) puts it in, so well deserved."

The U.S. lost striker Jozy Altidore to an apparent left hamstring injury in the 21st minute and his status for the rest of the tournament wasn't immediately known. Dempsey had his nose bloodied with a knee to the face.

"I was coughing up blood a little bit. Hopefully I'll be able to breathe through my nose again before the next game," Dempsey said.

Dempsey's goal made him

the first U.S. player to score in three different World Cups and ranks as the fifth-quickest goal in World Cup history.

Both U.S. goals were surprising. Dempsey's showed the kind of technical flair seldom seen from a squad that typically scores through set pieces. Brooks' game winner rescued the Americans just when the U.S. likely would have been happy to escape with at least a draw.

DaMarcus Beasley, who became the first American to play in four World Cups, started the buildup to Dempsey's goal with a pass to Jermaine Jones, who fed it to Dempsey inside the penalty area.

With a nifty move to split defenders John Boye and Sulley Muntari, Dempsey sent the left-footed shot past goalkeeper Adam Kwarasey, where the ball bounced off the post and in.

The Black Stars regrouped at halftime, and the U.S. looked punchless on the attack. Ghana enjoyed 59 percent of the possession in the game.

Ghana applied relentless



United States' Clint Dempsey celebrates after scoring the opening goal during the group G World Cup soccer match between Ghana and the United States at the Arena das Dunas in Natal, Brazil, Monday, June 16, 2014.

Associated Press

pressure on U.S. goalkeeper Tim Howard and finally drew even when captain Asamoah Gyan flicked a backheel pass to Andre Ayew, who used the outside of his left foot for a powerful shot.

Ghana was still pressing when Brooks scored. The 21-year-old who plays for Hertha Berlin in the Bundesliga, appeared shocked, raising his hands to his head before falling to the ground to be mobbed by his teammates.

"It's a special moment for the boy, he did well," Klinsmann said.

"What I can say is it was a very tough game," Ghana coach Kwesi Appiah said. "Playing at this level any little mistake can cost you dearly. We didn't deserve to get the first goal against us."

Germany wins, Nigeria-Iran play first draw

STEPHEN WADE
AP Sports Writer

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Germany was supposed to be a team that would melt in Brazil's tropics, and the United States was supposed to be a team that can't beat Ghana.

Both teams flipped the scripts on Monday and find themselves tied atop Group G.

In Salvador, Thomas Mueller scored a hat trick and Germany dominated Portugal — which played with 10 men after a red card in the 37th minute — 4-0, leaving German President Angela Merkel with a big smile.

The two games helped the World Cup continue to deliver lots of goals — 44 in the first 14 games.

Nigeria played Iran in the day's other match, and neither team added to that tally. The teams played the first draw of this World Cup, finishing scoreless. Argentina defeated Bosnia 2-1 on Sunday in the other Group F match, and both will feel confident after watching Nigeria and Iran fail to produce.

Two seeded teams — defending champion Spain and Uruguay — were upset earlier. That fate would not befall Germany on Monday.

It was Germans' 100th World Cup match, and they had it wrapped up by halftime.

Mueller, who led the 2010 World Cup with five goals, scored on either side of Mats Hummels' headed



Germany's Thomas Mueller, right, watches as the ball goes past Portugal's goalkeeper Rui Patrício to score his side's fourth goal during the group G World Cup soccer match between Germany and Portugal at the Arena Fonte Nova in Salvador, Brazil, Monday, June 16, 2014.

Associated Press

goal as Germany took a 3-0 lead at the break. He added his third goal in the 81st.

"To score three goals in the World Cup opener against

such an opponent is great," Mueller said.

"After 20 minutes, we looked up at the clock and thought it was going to be a long day," he added.

"But we got into the match very well and when you lead by 2-0 in this heat and then even get the third, it was all over."

Cristiano Ronaldo started at Arena Fonte Nova despite some nagging injuries. The winner of FIFA's best player award, he faded after threatening early in the match. He had a shot from a break that Germany goalkeeper Manuel Neuer blocked, but there was nobody from Portugal to pounce on the rebound.

The defending Cup of Africa Nations champion, Nigeria will be more disappointed with the draw than Iran.

Neither Iran nor Nigeria has won a match at the World Cup since 1998.

Miami's Chris Bosh says Heat season was a grind



Miami Heat center Chris Bosh (1) looks to pass against the San Antonio Spurs during the first half in Game 5 of the NBA basketball finals on Sunday, June 15, 2014, in San Antonio.

Associated Press

TIM REYNOLDS
AP Basketball Writer
SAN ANTONIO (AP) —

About an hour after the season ended, Chris Bosh was standing near the bus

ramp from where the Miami Heat would soon depart for the airport and the offseason.

Miami's two-year reign was over.

And Bosh almost sounded relieved.

The Heat got rolled in the NBA Finals by San Antonio, losing in five games, the last three of them lopsided, and for the first time since 2011 there would be no championship parade in Miami. The same team that the Heat wore down in the 2013 finals had all the answers, ushering in a summer for Miami that will be filled with questions about the futures of LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Bosh. "I don't think anybody really enjoyed this season like in years past," Bosh told The Associated Press. "There was no, like, genuine joy all the time. It seemed like work. It was a job the whole year. Winning was just a relief. Losing was a cloud over us sometimes and then we'd break out of it — and then go right back. But we got here. We had a chance. They were just

better."

That being said, and while hardly committing to a fifth season of the "Big 3" era in Miami, Bosh made it clear: The group wants to remain intact. Whether or not personal choices and financial realities of a salary-capped, luxury-taxed world will allow that to happen remain unclear.

"We want to stay together, man," Bosh said. "I'll say that. It's a great organization, great team and great city. And to have a chance, that's all you can ask for."

James insisted he hasn't thought about what decisions he has to make this summer. Wade has often expressed interest in remaining with the Heat. Bosh has said repeatedly that he wants to stay. But all can become free agents in the next couple weeks, and the Heat might be rooting for that to happen.

By opting out, they could get new deals with the Heat and create financial flexibility for team president Pat Riley to lure new pieces into a locker room that will

need new faces.

"The whole league continues to get better every single year," James said. "Obviously we would need to get better from every facet, every position. It's just how the league works." For as well as he played in Game 5 — 31 points and 10 rebounds in what would be the final game of Miami's run as champion — James' best display of defense came afterward, when pressed repeatedly about his future.

"I will deal with my summer when I get to that point," James said. "Me and my team will sit down and deal with it. I love Miami. My family loves it. But obviously right now that's not even what I'm thinking about. You guys are trying to find answers. I'm not going to give you one."

James and Wade shared the postgame podium Sunday, possibly for the last time. Wade seemed to be laboring in the last two games of the finals, shooting just 28 percent from the floor and 50 percent from the foul line.

"It wasn't just Dwyane," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said when asked about Wade's struggles. "It was pretty much everybody except for LeBron."

Wade's knees and health have been a concern all year, never more than in the finals.

"I'm all right," Wade said. "Can't win them all. You try to, but you can't win them all." The Heat have known for four years that this summer of decisions and possible changes was looming, and have planned accordingly.

Besides the "Big 3," the locker room is filled with free-agents-in-waiting. Chris Andersen, who excelled for little money the last two seasons, will be getting a raise from someone. Mario Chalmers can leave, Ray Allen isn't sure if he'll play in Miami or anywhere else, Shane Battier is retiring and Udonis Haslem — who has been with the Heat for 11 seasons, just like Wade — also has an uncertain future. □

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Adams homers again as Cards beat Nats 5-2

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Matt Adams homered for the third straight game, all with his father in attendance, as the St. Louis Cardinals beat Washington 5-2 Sunday for a sweep.

Adams gave St. Louis a 2-0 lead in the second inning with a two-run shot on an 0-2 pitch, his sixth homer of the season. His dad, Jamie, had been visiting from Pennsylvania on Father's Day weekend.

Adams has homered in all three games since coming off the disabled list with a torn calf muscle.

Jaime Garcia (3-0) pitched seven innings, allowing five hits and a run. Trevor Rosenthal got the final out for his 20th save.

Doug Fister (5-2) had his five-start winning streak snapped.

ROCKIES 8, GIANTS 7

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Justin Morneau hit a two-run double in the eighth inning as Colorado came back to sweep a three-game series from San Francisco.

Morneau's pinch hit highlighted a four-run rally for the Rockies, who scored in the ninth in each of the first two games of the series for the win.

Troy Tulowitzki had three hits, including a home run, and drove in two runs for the Rockies, who won extended their season-high winning streak to five.

The Giants have lost six of seven.

Matt Belisle (2-2) pitched an inning for Colorado. Juan Gutierrez (1-2) got the loss.

DIAMONDBACKS 6, DODGERS 3

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Paul Goldschmidt and Miguel Montero homered to help Bronson Arroyo win his third straight start as Arizona averted a three-game series sweep.

Arroyo (7-4) allowed a run and five hits in five innings. Los Angeles starter Josh Beckett (4-4) gave up three earned runs in seven innings.

Goldschmidt hit his 15th homer in the first inning and

Montero hit his 10th in the ninth, a two-run shot off Chris Perez.

REDS 13, BREWERS 4

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Billy Hamilton led off the game with a home run, Brandon Phillips added a two-run shot in the first inning and Todd Frazier later hit his team-high 15th homer as the Cincinnati Reds beat Milwaukee.

Hamilton connected for the second straight day, off homer-prone Marco Estrada (5-4).

Ryan Ludwick had three doubles and got four of the Reds' season-high 19 hits. Frazier also doubled and drove in four runs.

Estrada's infield single with the bases loaded in the fourth off Mike Leake (4-6) helped tie the game at 3. Frazier's two-run shot the next inning put Cincinnati up for good. Estrada has given up a major league-high 23 homers in just 84 innings, with 18 coming since May 1.

CUBS 3, PHILLIES 0

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Travis Wood pitched hitless ball into the sixth inning as the Chicago Cubs beat Philadelphia to win a road series for the first time this season. Anthony Rizzo hit his 14th home run as the Cubs took two of three at Citizens Bank Park.

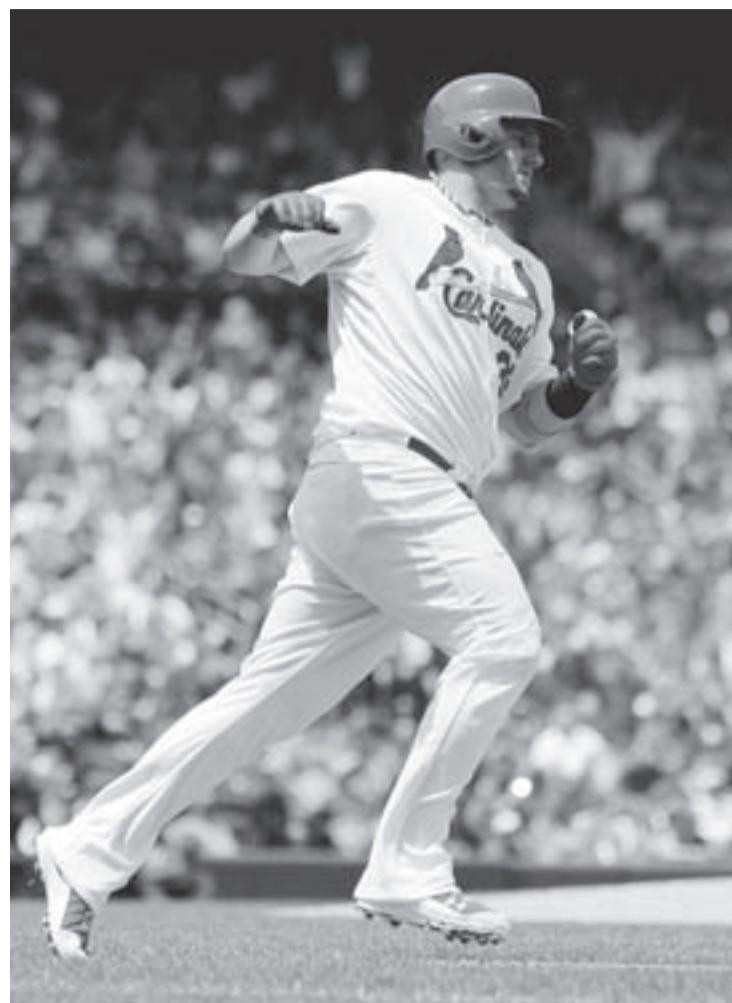
The Cubs last-place had been 0-9-3 in sets away from Wrigley Field. This was the Cubs' first series win in Philadelphia since April 2001.

Wood (7-5) didn't allow a hit until Ben Revere's one-out single in the sixth. He gave up three hits in eight innings and Neil Ramirez got his third save.

A.J. Burnett (4-6) moved past Hall of Famer Eddie Plank into 50th place on the career strikeout list.

MARLINS 3, PIRATES 2, 10 INNINGS

MIAMI (AP) — Casey McGehee tied the game in the eighth inning with a two-out, two-run double, then drove home the winning run with a sacrifice fly in the 10th as the Miami Marlins prevented a sweep by Pittsburgh.



St. Louis Cardinals' Matt Adams celebrates as he rounds the bases after hitting a two-run home run during the second inning of a baseball game against the Washington Nationals, Sunday, June 15, 2014, in St. Louis.

Associated Press

Vance Worley pitched seven innings in his season debut for the Pirates and departed with a 2-0 lead.

Reliever Tony Watson had thrown 21 1-3 consecutive scoreless innings before McGehee doubled.

A.J. Ramos (4-0) loaded the bases with none out in the 10th but escaped.

The Pirates had won four

in row before Miami won it against Jared Hughes (3-2). **METS 3, PADRES 1**

NEW YORK (AP) — Curtis Granderson hit his first leadoff homer in five years, Carlos Torres and two other relievers filled in admirably for an ailing Daisuke Matsuzaka as the New York Mets beat San Diego.

Bobby Abreu added an RBI

double against Ian Kennedy (5-8), helping New York take the rubber game in a series between the two worst hitting teams in the majors.

Matsuzaka barely made it through an inning because of a severe upset stomach. Torres (3-4) went four innings, Vic Black pitched two scoreless innings and Jenrry Mejia made his first appearance since leaving Thursday night's game with a stiff back, working two hitless innings for his seventh save.

BRAVES 7, ANGELS 3

ATLANTA (AP) — Tommy La Stella had three hits, including a two-run double in Atlanta's four-run sixth, as the Braves beat Hector Santiago and the Los Angeles Angels.

La Stella, the rookie second baseman, is hitting .411 with at least two hits in nine of his 16 games.

Evan Gattis and Justin Upton also had run-scoring singles in the sixth as the Braves rallied against Santiago (0-7) after trailing 3-0.

Jason Heyward hit a homer in the seventh and made two strong defensive plays in right field to take hits away from Mike Trout.

Trout had three hits, including a homer. Erick Aybar also homered for the Angels before leaving the game with a sore left hip.

Anthony Vavaro (2-1) had three strikeouts in two perfect innings. □

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Blue Jays beat Orioles 5-2 for 4-game split

Associated Press

BALTIMORE (AP) — J.A. Happ pitched into the seventh inning and Dioner Navarro had three hits and two RBIs as the Toronto Blue Jays beat Baltimore for a four-game split.

Edwin Encarnacion also had three hits for the Blue Jays, who had totaled 15 runs in losing six of their previous eight games.

The AL East leaders take a 4 1/2-game lead into a three-game series at Yankee Stadium starting Tuesday night. Ace Masahiro Tanaka starts the opener for New York.

Adam Jones homered and Nelson Cruz had three hits and his major league-leading 56th RBI for the Orioles. Happ (6-3) gave up one run, seven hits and no walks in six-plus innings. Casey Janssen got four outs for his 12th save.

Chris Tillman (5-4) is 0-4 with a 2.78 ERA at home and 5-0 with a 6.33 ERA on the road.

ATHLETICS 10, YANKEES 5
OAKLAND, California (AP) — Derek Norris and Coco Crisp each hit a three-run homer, powering Jesse Chavez and Oakland to the win.

Carlos Beltran hit his first home run for the Yankees since coming off the dis-



Toronto Blue Jays starting pitcher J.A. Happ follows through to the Baltimore Orioles in the fifth inning of a baseball game on Sunday, June 15, 2014, in Baltimore.

Associated Press

abled list. But the All-Star veteran also was called out on a strange play in the eighth inning when he seemed to lose track of the outs and wandered away from first base.

Norris homered in the first and Crisp connected in the second off Vidal Nuno

(1-3).

The A's had been held to one run or fewer in four of their previous nine games before taking a 10-0 lead in four innings.

Chavez (6-4) pitched six innings of one-run ball.

MARINERS 5, RANGERS 1

SEATTLE (AP) — Kyle Seager had four hits and three RBIs as Seattle stopped a five-game losing streak. Hisashi Iwakuma (5-3) pitched eight sharp innings, allowing Brad Snyder's first career homer. Charlie Furbush then got three outs to complete the six-hitter.

Iwakuma improved to 2-1 with a 1.61 ERA in three starts this month. The right-hander struck out six and walked none in his fourth start this season of eight inn-

nings. Nick Martinez (1-4) allowed nine hits and walked one, but held the Mariners to two runs in six innings.

TIGERS 4, TWINS 3

DETROIT (AP) — Right fielder Oswaldo Arcia's error led to J.D. Martinez's sacrifice fly in the ninth inning, lifting the Detroit Tigers over Minnesota.

Torii Hunter led off the ninth

with a single off Casey Fein (3-3). One out later, Victor Martinez hit a fly ball that Arcia dropped at the wall, setting up the winning fly.

Earlier in the game, Arcia lost a routine fly in the sun with two outs and a runner on third for a run.

INDIANS 3, RED SOX 2, 11 INNINGS

BOSTON (AP) — Nick Swisher led off the 11th inning with a homer as the Cleveland Indians beat Boston for a four-game split.

It was Swisher's fourth homer of the season and first since being activated from the disabled list on Thursday before the series opener.

Cody Allen (3-1) ended the game with two perfect inn-

ings, striking out three. Junichi Tazawa (1-1) took the loss one day after walking in the winning run in Cleveland's 3-2 victory.

RAYS 4, ASTROS 3

HOUSTON (AP) — David Price shook off a tough start to strike out 10, pinch-hitter Jerry Sands broke three bats while singling home the go-ahead run in the eighth inning and Tampa Bay beat Houston.

For the second time in a week, Astros manager Bo Porter moved reliever Tony Sipp to left field, then brought him back to pitch. Price (5-6) allowed homers to Dexter Fowler and Matt Dominguez in the first inning. He went eight innings in his first win since May 13. It was the 20th career double-digit strikeout game for Price, setting a Tampa Bay record.

Jake McGee pitched a scoreless ninth for his first save.

Sands then broke two bats on foul balls before shredding a third one on his hit to left field off Jerome Williams (1-3).

ROYALS 6, WHITE SOX 3

CHICAGO (AP) — Salvador Perez hit a three-run homer as the Kansas City Royals swept a three-game series of the Chicago White Sox.

James Shields (8-3) won his fifth straight decision and the Royals extended their season-high win streak to seven. Greg Holland pitched the ninth for his 20th save in 21 chances.

Andre Rienzo (4-4) took the loss in Chicago's fourth straight defeat. □

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Domino's introduces a 'Siri' to take mobile orders

CANDICE CHOI
AP Food Industry Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Domino's pizza delivery chain on Monday plans to introduce a function on its mobile app that lets customers place orders by speaking with a computer-generated voice named "Dom," part of an ongoing effort to take business away from rivals and smaller pizza shops by offering more convenient ways to order. The company, based in Ann Arbor, Michigan, says the updated app for iPhones and Android devices will deliver a "human-like, conversational" experience, but notes that it will take some time to work out the kinks in the technology.

"It is not perfect," Domino's CEO Patrick Doyle said in an interview. "This is the sort of thing, like any other really new technology launch, you're going to learn, you're going to

get better." Already, mobile and online ordering accounts for 40 percent of Domino's U.S. sales. Growing that portion of its business has become a priority for the chain, with customers increasingly saying they prefer to place orders that way. People who order digitally also tend to spend more and return with greater frequency because they like the convenience, Doyle said. Meanwhile, he noted that smaller pizza shops don't have the money to invest in such technologies.

"It is clearly an area where we'll be able to leverage our scale," he said.

Although other factors have played a role, Domino's credits its digital platforms for helping drive sales. Last year, the company's domestic sales rose 5.4 percent at established locations.

Still, compared with many

other cuisines, the pizza industry remains fairly fragmented. Four of the national biggest chains — Domino's, Pizza Hut, Papa John's and Little Caesars — together have a little more than 40 percent of the market, according to Doyle.

Darren Tristano, an analyst with the industry tracker Technomic, said the major chains have the potential to grow their market share by leveraging national marketing campaign and the ability to offer steeper discounts. And while sophisticated digital ordering platforms give the big chains an edge, Tristano said those technologies will eventually become cheap enough for smaller players to adopt.

"That gap is shrinking," Tristano said.

For now, the voice ordering function on the Domino's app is fairly simple.

After pulling up the app,



In this Feb. 21, 2007 file photo, Domino's Pizza delivery person Brandon Christensen plugs in the company sign atop his car in Sandy, Utah. **Associated Press**

customers type in their address and are taken to the ordering page where they can push a button to order by voice. A voice that identifies itself as "Dom" walks customers through the process by asking if they want additional toppings or other items. To pay, customers still have to type in their credit card information.

Domino's Pizza Inc., which has 5,000 U.S. locations, is partnering with Nuance Communications to offer the technology. □

DreamWorks mixing faves, newbies in YouTube debut

RYAN NAKASHIMA
AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — When AwesomenessTV launched as a YouTube channel two years ago, it was a bet by veteran TV and movie producer Brian Robbins on the ability of teen and tween audiences to find videos they love to watch online.

On Monday, Robbins kicks off DreamWorks TV, another YouTube channel that represents one of the first attempts by Hollywood to mesh the polished look of movies with the chaos of content on the Internet.

The channel is aimed at 6 to 11 year olds and will have a mix of videos featuring characters familiar to DreamWorks Animation audiences — like "Shrek" and Po from "Kung Fu Panda" — alongside those who haven't yet made it big — like cardboard cut-out news anchors from "The Report Card."

The hope is that kids who come to watch their favorite characters will get interested in new ones that might one day become just as valuable.

Robbins compared his channel to cable TV networks such as MTV and ESPN in the 1970s and '80s. What were once fledgling networks that no one watched



This undated image provided by DreamWorksTV shows an image from "Jimmy Blue Shorts," one of more than a dozen new shows on DreamWorks TV. **Associated Press**

have now become multibillion-dollar enterprises that are the bedrocks of major media companies.

"This is really about building the cable channel of tomorrow," Robbins said in an interview. "What we think is happening digitally is that the next generation of those brands will be born out of this digital revolution that's going on."

AwesomenessTV was one of the startup channels that received a small piece of the \$100 million in seed funding that YouTube doled out to some 100 creators two years ago to develop original content for the online video

platform.

Today, it is one of the few to have amassed an audience large enough to attract the attention of a major studio. DreamWorks Animation SKG Inc. bought AwesomenessTV in May 2013 for what could exceed \$100 million if the channel operator continues to hit its earnings targets. This March, The Walt Disney Co. said it would pay up to \$950 million for rival YouTube channel operator Maker Studios, a price that makes the AwesomenessTV deal seem like a bargain.

The online platform will be a relatively inexpensive way to develop hits and to forget failures.

Birk Rawlings, head of animation at DreamWorks TV, said the network will debut more than a dozen new shows in the first few weeks, including "Jimmy Blue Shorts" and "Fifi Cat Therapist." One live-action show will reimagine the comic book character "Richie Rich," one of the hundreds of characters DreamWorks acquired when it bought Classic Media in June 2012.

Executives will tweak the lineup based on audience feedback in the form of "likes," repeat viewings and the amount of time people stick around.

The venture represents a great way for DreamWorks to try out new content and keep audiences engaged with their biggest franchises, said Peter Csathy, chief executive of Manatt Digital Media Ventures, an investor in YouTube channel network DanceOn. He said it's fine if some quickly made programming doesn't live up to the luscious imagery and vibrant animation of the DreamWorks brand.

"You don't have to wait to see if you succeed after you put hundreds of millions of dollars into 'Shrek,'" he said. "Now you can put in a fraction of that and throw spaghetti against the wall and see what sticks." □

US stocks manage meager gains on mostly quiet day

ALEX VEIGA

AP Business Writer

Investors nudged U.S. stocks into positive territory Monday, thanks in part to another round of corporate couplings.

Three proposed acquisitions, including medical device maker Medtronic's \$42.9 billion bid for rival Covidien, helped the market eke out a slight gain for the second trading day in a row.

Homebuilding stocks also got a boost from a survey showing that U.S. home-builders' outlook on the housing market improved this month.

Stocks mostly hovered between small gains and losses through much of the day as traders monitored the conflict in Iraq and considered its potential impact on oil prices.

Major U.S. stock indexes were down in premarket trading, but began to rebound within the first hour as investors bid up shares in Ireland-based Covidien. The stock jumped \$14.73, or more than 20 percent, to \$86.75. Medtronic shed 67 cents, or 1.1 percent, to \$60.03.

"Merger Monday clearly gave a lift to the market," said Joe Peta, managing director at Novus.

Two other deals also drew heightened interest from traders.

Williams Cos. hit an all-time high after the pipeline operator agreed to buy a part of natural gas processor Access Midstream Partners for nearly \$6 billion. Williams vaulted \$8.84, or 18.7 percent, to \$56.02. TW Telecom climbed \$2.65, or 7.3 percent, to \$38.99 after the Internet provider agreed to be acquired by Level 3 Communications for about \$7.3 billion, including debt. Level 3 shares fell \$1.79, or 4.1 percent, to \$42.30.

The market was still heading for a loss in the final hour of trading, then recovered within the last 10 minutes.

All told, the Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 1.62 points, or 0.1 percent, to 1,937.78. The index is down less than 1 percent from its

most recent all-time high of 1,951.27 set a week ago. Seven of the 10 sectors in the S&P 500 index rose, led by utilities.

The Dow Jones industrial average added 5.27 points, or 0.03 percent, to 16,781.01. The Nasdaq

composite gained 10.45 points, or 0.2 percent, to 4,321.11.

The three stock indexes are all up for the year.

Bond prices were flat. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note held steady at 2.60 percent.

The market has been sluggish in recent months, even as investors have had more than a few geopolitical concerns to worry about. Earlier this year, it was currency concerns in Turkey and then the fallout from Russian-Ukraine tensions.

Last week, the insurgency in Iraq erupted, causing a spike in oil prices.

Still, the day-to-day market swings have been mostly minor.

Monday was the 41st day in a row that the S&P 500 did not move 1 percent, one way or the other, Peta noted.

"That lack of volatility is something we have not seen since 1995," he said. "You can call it complacent, or non-volatile or sluggish, but certainly this is a different environment than we've seen for quite some time."

At the same time, a flurry of merger news has helped lift stocks in recent weeks, a trend that underscores that stocks are not seen as expensive right now.

"Companies are looking to redeploy cash, looking to hopefully ignite growth through acquisition," said Sean Lynch, managing director of global equity for Wells Fargo Private Bank. There was also encouraging news on the housing market. □



A sign for Wall Street is shown near the New York Stock Exchange. World stock markets mostly declined Monday, June 16, 2014, as the turmoil in Iraq dampened sentiment and investors held back ahead of the Federal Reserve's monthly policy meeting later in the week.

(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

Alibaba's growth slips to slowest pace in 6 years

MICHAEL LIEDTKE
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Alibaba's quarterly revenue growth has slipped to its slowest pace in six years, a development that could dampen demand to invest in the Chinese e-commerce company's upcoming stock offering.

News of the slowdown emerged Monday in a regulatory filing that provided the first update on Alibaba's performance since the company submitted paperwork in May for an initial public offering of stock. Several other updates are likely before Alibaba completes the IPO in late summer or early fall.

Alibaba hasn't yet specified how many shares it will offer or how much money it hopes to raise. Analysts, though, have been predicting Alibaba could eclipse the \$16 billion that Facebook Inc. fetched in the technology industry's

biggest IPO two years ago. The lofty expectations riding on Alibaba's IPO may have been slightly lowered by Monday's Securities and Exchange Commis-

Alibaba's first-quarter revenue rose 39 percent from last year to roughly \$1.9 billion, based on the current exchange rates for the yuan.



People walk past a company logo at the headquarters of Alibaba Group in Hangzhou, in eastern China's Zhejiang province. Alibaba is pulling back the curtain a little bit more Monday, June 16, 2014, providing more information about its partnership structure and financials ahead of its planned initial public offering.

(AP Photo)

sion filing, which included the company's results for the first three months of the year.

The numbers revealed that

Although that represents robust growth for most companies, it's a significant deceleration for Alibaba Group Holding Ltd.

and a network of websites that includes Taobao and Tmall. For instance, the company's revenue surged by 62 percent during the final three months of last year. The first-quarter growth also marked the first time that Alibaba has posted a quarterly revenue increase below 40 percent since Yahoo Inc., one of its major shareholders, began disclosing its results in 2008. Signaling investors' disappointment with Alibaba's first-quarter performance, Yahoo's stock fell \$2.13, or nearly 6 percent, to close Monday at \$34.81.

Yahoo's fortunes are closely tied with Alibaba because it owns roughly 23 percent of the Chinese company. As part of Alibaba's IPO, Yahoo will get a multibillion-dollar windfall by selling 208 million of its Alibaba shares. Yahoo will retain ownership of another 315 million Alibaba shares, or about 14 percent of the company. □

Paradigm Capital, owner Weir paying \$2.2M over case

MARCY GORDON
AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A hedge fund and its owner will pay \$2.2 million to settle federal charges that the firm set up trades that represented a conflict of interest and then retaliated against a high-ranking employee who reported the conduct to regulators.

The Securities and Exchange Commission announced the settlement Monday with Paradigm Capital Management of Albany, New York, and its owner, Candace King Weir. The SEC said it's the agency's first case to protect a whistleblower under the new anti-retaliation authority granted by the 2011 financial overhaul law.

The conflict arose because Weir initiated transactions between Paradigm and a brokerage firm she also owns while trading on a hedge fund client's behalf, the SEC said.

That type of arrangement can create a conflict between the interests of a hedge fund's manager and those of a client, the agency said. Hedge fund managers are required by law to disclose in writing that they are taking positions on both sides of a trade and to obtain the client's consent before completing each transaction.

Paradigm and Weir neither admitted nor denied the SEC's allegations but agreed to refrain from future violations. Under the settlement, they are returning \$1.7 million plus \$181,771 to investors in Paradigm and a \$300,000 civil penalty. In addition, Paradigm agreed to hire an independent compliance consultant. "We are pleased to resolve this matter and have it behind us," Paradigm and Weir said in a statement. The whistleblower, who was the head trader at Paradigm, resigned in August 2012. After learning that he had reported possible violations to the SEC, the firm retaliated by demoting him to compliance assistant, stripping him of his supervisory duties, and assigning him to investigate the same conduct he had reported, the agency said. □

American factory output rebounds from April dip

C. S. RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. manufacturing output rose in May at a solid pace, boosting hopes that the economy is expanding briskly after a dismal first three months of the year. Americans, buoyed by steady job gains, are buy-

ing more cars, while businesses are ordering more machinery and other equipment. Those trends are fueling factory production and driving growth.

Overall industrial production, which includes manufacturing, mining and utili-

cent, while utility output declined 0.8 percent, its fourth straight drop.

Industrial production grew 4.3 percent in the past 12 months, the fastest annual pace in nearly two years.

"With manufacturing accelerating, there is every good reason to believe that the economy is beginning to hit its stride," Joel Naroff, president of Naroff Economic Advisors, said in a note to clients.

Last month, factories produced more autos, furniture, industrial machinery, computers and appliances, a sign of healthy consumer and business demand. The nation's factories are running at 77 percent capacity, the most in six years, though still 1.7 percentage points below the long-run average. As factories move closer to full capacity, factory owners will face pressure to invest in plants and equipment, a trend that could boost the economy.

The data follows other recent reports that also point to steady increases in factory production. Auto sales reached a nine-year

high in May as Americans ramped up purchases of SUVs and pickup trucks.

A survey this month by the Institute for Supply Management, a trade group of purchasing managers, found that manufacturing expanded faster in May than in April. Growth was broad based across nearly all the 18 sectors the survey covers.

And the ISM survey's measure of orders rose, a sign that output should remain healthy in the months ahead. Manufacturers are hiring more to keep up with demand. Factories added 10,000 positions in May, and the average work week for manufacturing employees grew.

Greater factory output would help drive growth after the U.S. economy shrank at a 1 percent annual rate in the first quarter, though recent reports indicate that the contraction was probably larger. Many economists now think the government will say the economy shrank at a 2 percent pace when it revises its estimate next week. □



Jerry Drury installs parts on a truck engine assembly line at Volvo Trucks' Powertrain manufacturing facility in Hagerstown, Md. The Federal Reserve released positive industrial production figures for May on Monday, June 16, 2014.

(AP Photo/Patrick Semansky)

ing more cars, while businesses are ordering more machinery and other equipment. Those trends are fueling factory production and driving growth.

ties, also rose 0.6 percent in May. It had fallen 0.3 percent in April.

Mining output, which includes oil and gas production, jumped 1.3 per-

US homebuilder confidence up in June, remains low

PAUL WISEMAN
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. homebuilders are feeling more confident about the housing market but don't think it is healthy yet.

The National Association of Home Builders/Wells Fargo builder sentiment index rose to 49 in June, highest since January and up from 45 in May. Readings below 50 indicate that builders view sales conditions are poor rather than good. The index has been stuck below 50 since January. The low numbers earlier this year reflected a bitter winter that chilled economic activity across much of the U.S.

But warmer weather hasn't done much to help: Sales of new homes are running about half the rate of a healthy housing market.

Still, builders are the most confident they've been since January about new single-family home sales over the next six months. They report seeing more potential buyers shopping

for homes, though traffic remains modest.

"Consumers are still hesitant, and are waiting for clear signals of full-fledged economic recovery before making a home purchase," said David Crowe, chief economist for the home-builders group. "Builders

407,000 in March. But they were down more than 4 percent from a year earlier.

Sales surged in the first half of last year but have sputtered since. Last year's



A new home is under construction in the Winthrop sub-division in Riverview, Fla. The National Association of Home Builders/Wells Fargo released its monthly index of builder sentiment on Monday, June 16, 2014.

(AP Photo/Chris O'Meara)

are reacting accordingly, and are moving cautiously in adding inventory."

New home sales rose 6.4 percent in April to a seasonally adjusted annual pace of 433,000 from

gains and a limited supply of homes pushed up prices to levels that strained the household budgets of potential buyers. The median price for an existing home was \$201,700 in April, up

5.2 percent from a year earlier.

"With affordability still hugely impaired compared to last year, don't expect a sustained revival in demand anytime soon," Ian Shepherdson, chief economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics, wrote in a research note. "And if mortgage rates rise over the summer, as we expect, housing will take another turn for the worse."

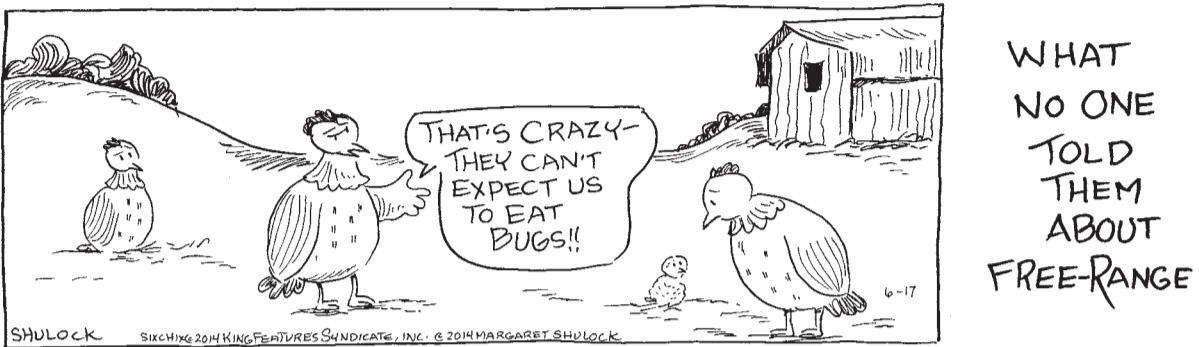
Existing home sales came in at an annual rate 4.65 million in April, up 1.3 percent from March but down 6.8 percent from a year earlier, according to the National Association of Realtors. In a healthy housing market, roughly 5.5 million existing homes are purchased each year.

The increase in home sales over the past year has occurred primarily among homes worth more than \$750,000. Buying fell during the same period for homes worth less than \$250,000, which make up the majority of all purchases. □

Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



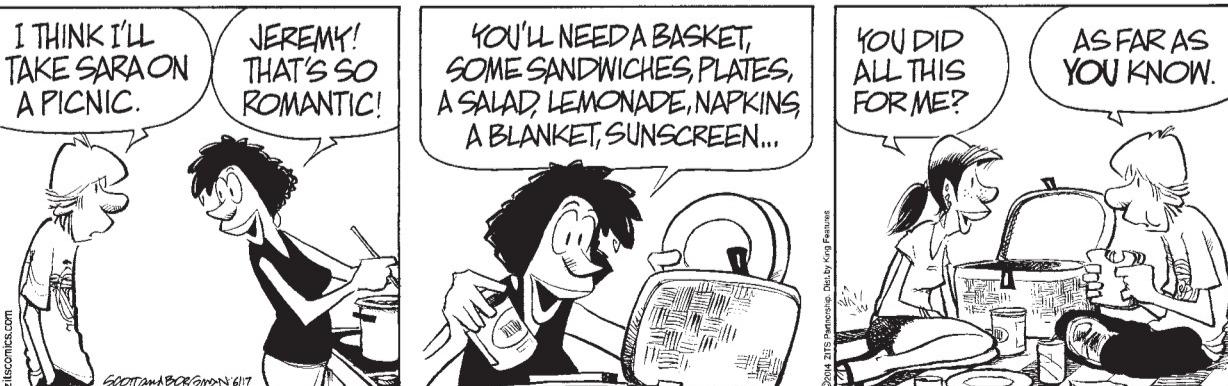
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			7		2			
1	3	4				8		
8		2					6	
3	8				4			
4	6					3	7	
			7		9	6		
6				9		7		
5			6	1	3			
4		2						

Difficulty Level ★★

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6/17

8	5	2	4	7	9	3	6	1
1	3	7	5	6	8	4	9	2
9	6	4	1	3	2	8	5	7
6	9	3	2	5	7	1	4	8
5	2	8	3	1	4	6	7	9
4	7	1	8	9	6	5	2	3
2	1	6	9	4	3	7	8	5
7	8	5	6	2	1	9	3	4
3	4	9	7	8	5	2	1	6

Yesterday's puzzle answer

6/17

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20		21		22		23						
		24		25								
26	27	28		29		30		31	32	33		
34			35		36							
37		38		39		40						
41		42		43		44						
45			46		47							
51	52	53			54		55	56	57			
58			59	60		61						
62			63		64							
65			66		67							

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

6/17/14

Monday's Puzzle Solved

O	I	L	A	R	D	O	R	T	R	E	K
D	R	A	B	S	I	E	V	E	H	R	E
A	M	E	C	O	L	E	R	A	G	R	E
S	P	A	R	E	T	I	R	O	N		
O	L	D	H	A	T	C	A	B	L	E	C
O	R	E	R	B	E	R	L	I	R	E	
S	O	E	P	O	N	C	A	G	E	S	
A	S	A	S	L	O	T	H	P	L	A	
R	E	D	C	O	A	T	S	M	A	R	
D	O	C	O	A	T	S	M	A	R		
A	B	C	S	O	L	E					
S	L	O	B	A	F	F					
T	A	X	I	T	A	L	O	N	T	O	
T	E	N	E	R	U	P	T	E	A	C	
M	A	N	S	D	R	E	S	S	T	H	

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6/17/14

- All Rights Reserved.
- 2 Money, slangily
3 Climb __; mount
4 Guns
5 Wheat bundle
6 Nag
7 Afternoon hour
8 Place
9 "Same for me!"
10 Lauded
11 Lion's den
12 Upper limbs
13 Treetop home
21 Argon or xenon
23 Choir songs
25 Aviated
26 Closes tightly
27 Covered __; pioneer vehicle
28 Amphitheater
29 Water barrier
30 Gets closer to
31 Piece of dining room furniture
32 Peepers
33 Skillet
34 "you kidding me?"
35 Rendezvous
36 __ off; irritates
37 Covered __; pioneer vehicle
38 Punctured
39 Actress Arthur
40 Actress Gilbert
41 Actress Scott
42 Actress Scott
43 Attempt
44 Throw with force
45 Slow crawler
46 Stinging insect
47 Honking birds
48 Punctured
49 Actress Scott
50 Lauded
51 Lion's den
52 Upper limbs
53 Treetop home
54 Climb __; mount
55 Aviated
56 Closes tightly
57 Covered __; pioneer vehicle
58 Water barrier
59 Gets closer to
60 Piece of dining room furniture
61 Skillet
62 Peepers
63 Stinging insect
64 What omelet makers need
65 Without
66 Rendezvous
67 __ off; irritates
68 Covered __; pioneer vehicle
69 Water barrier
70 Gets closer to
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95 Peepers
96 Stinging insect
97 What omelet makers need
98 Without
99 Rendezvous
100 __ off; irritates

A Delay at La Guardia Becomes 'The French Connection'

BRIAN WALSH

© 2014 New York Times

I have been flying for most of my 35-year career. As the chairman and chief investment officer at Saguenay Strathmore Capital, I'm constantly traveling for business. I was on a plane 2 1/2 weeks after rotator cuff surgery. The doctor thought I was nuts.

I like meeting people, but once I'm on a plane I'm not one to start a conversation. If someone else does, fine. I'll talk for a while. I don't like to talk business or politics; any other subject is fine. But I'd really just rather relax or get some work done.

One thing I have noticed lately is how worried passengers get when people don't turn off their phones the second the announcement is made. Travelers like

me are usually working up until the last minute, and we're the last to turn off our phones. A woman I was sitting next to recently got agitated because I was still on my phone about 30 seconds after the announcement was made. We weren't moving. We weren't doing anything, and my phone was not going to have any effect on the plane. But I just shut it off. I wasn't going to get into a debate.

I do understand how uncomfortable it can be when people are rude about phones. I would never carry on a long business or personal conversation once I'm seated. Usually, it's just a text or a quick call. Recently, I was flying to Boston on a shuttle, and a guy about 30 feet from me was on his phone. Every pas-

senger on the flight could hear every single word he was saying, which was bad enough, but this guy was clearly on a job interview. I don't think he was doing that well, and being on a plane didn't help him.

I like to maximize my time, so I do everything last-minute when it comes to getting to the airport, and I don't like to miss meetings for any reason. That's probably not a good combination. My business partner and I were at La Guardia, heading to Montreal for a very important meeting the next morning. The weather was bad, and flights were being canceled. Our flight was just listed as having a long delay.

After about an hour of waiting, we decided we would be better off if we drove to Montreal, since we could guarantee our arrival. We've driven there in the past, and it's not bad. We ran to the car, fought rush-hour traffic and were on I-95 when I noticed that Air Canada was saying that our plane had landed at La Guardia and our flight was scheduled to leave in 50 minutes. We decided to reverse course and get back to airport. My partner is a great guy with a great business mind. He is not what I would call a great driver. He's also even more Type A than I am.

What occurred next was like a scene from "The French Connection" and for me, it was infinitely more terrifying than the thought of missing a meeting. I've never seen anyone drive like this. He was weaving in and out of traffic and looking for every opportunity to race ahead and get us back to La Guardia.

Somehow, without injuring ourselves or, more importantly, others, we made it back to the airport and onto our plane with a few minutes to spare. My nerves, however, were shot for a few hours. But I like to give credit where credit is due. Once we were seated, I think I said something to him along the lines of, "Dude, you rock." That still doesn't mean I want to be

in the car when he's behind the wheel.

Q: How often do you fly for business?

A: About 10 to 12 times a month, mostly throughout North America, with trips to Britain about five times a year and Asia at least once. □

DOCTOR ON DUTY



Oranjestad

Dr. Velasquez

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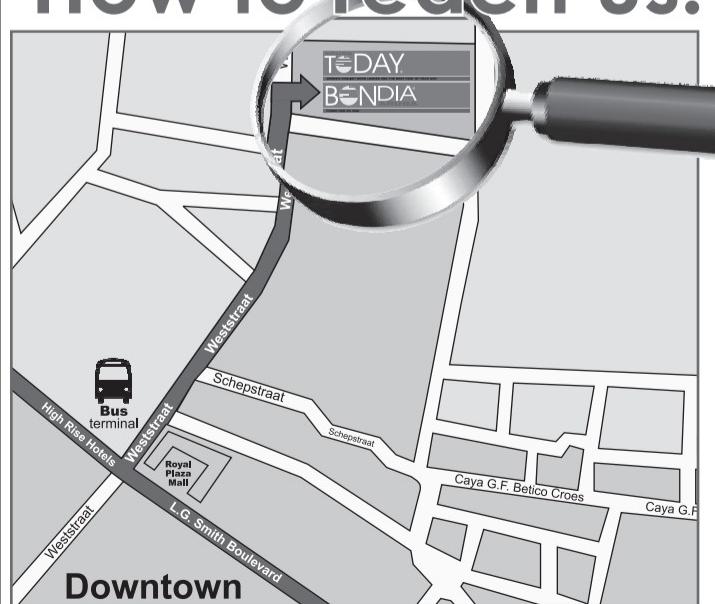
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Computers replace humans reading weather reports

RACHEL D'ORO
Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)

— Two outpost offices of the National Weather Service in Alaska are finally ending what has been a bygone practice for most of the nation for almost two decades — using real human voices in radio forecast broadcasts.

The Nome and Kodiak offices are switching to computerized voices that nationally go by the names of Tom, Donna and, in some parts of the country, Spanish-speaking Javier. It's an idea first hatched in the mid-1990s as part of a move to modernize the weather service, an agency of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Local weather forecasts are a big deal to many people in Alaska because, more than in some other parts of the United States, the forecasts can be a matter of life and death. The forecasts are broadcast on NOAA's weather radio network.

In Nome and Kodiak, weather reports are crucial for many because of



In this June 9, 2014 photo, National Weather Service meteorological technician Robert Murders reads the weather at the weather service office in Nome, Alaska.

Associated Press

the severe weather that can affect fishing vessels in far-flung regions, including the Bering Sea (think of the violent storms on the cable television show "The Deadliest Catch") and the Gulf of Alaska.

Knowing what the weather will do is also extremely important to pilots and passengers needing to get to larger cities. Kodiak is on an island, and Nome is on the western coast with no roads to link it to another

major Alaska hub city. The weather forecasts are so important that they are also broadcast over radio stations in Nome, including KNOM, which first reported the changes.

The Nome office briefly activated the technology this week through the Fairbanks office, one of three forecast offices in Alaska. Other smaller outpost offices scattered throughout the state have already gone the digital voice

route.

A technological kink, however, prompted the Nome office to go back to local weather service employees reading the forecasts until the problem is rectified in the near future, officials said.

It's a job that meteorological technician Robert Murders dreaded when he first moved to Nome, an old gold rush town about 550 miles northwest of Anchorage. Then he got to enjoy

reading the forecasts. He was watching the Discovery Channel reality show, "Bering Sea Gold," last season when he heard one of his own broadcasts in the background.

"That was kind of cool," Murders said.

But he also recognizes the speed and efficiency of using the automated voices, which are updated immediately, even if no one is in the office.

There is no target date for making the switch at the service office in Kodiak, located on the island of the same name.

Angel Corona, with the weather service's data-acquisition branch in Anchorage, said work is underway to patch that office with the Anchorage forecast office for the broadcasts. The Nome and Kodiak offices are being brought into the digital-voice era as part of a national initiative involving improvements to the system, Corona said. Alaska is the only state that still has such smaller outposts, while similar offices were closed long ago in the lower 48.



This May 23, 2011 file photo shows an American flag flying over the remains of a tornado-ravaged neighborhood in Tuscaloosa, Ala., a month after killer storms in Alabama.

Associated Press

By SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) - Oklahoma and Kansas may have the reputation as tornado hot spots, but Florida and the rest of the Southeast are far more vulnerable to killer twisters, a new analysis shows.

Florida leads the country in deaths calculated per

mile a tornado races along the ground, followed by Tennessee, North Carolina, Ohio and Alabama, according to an analysis of the past three decades by the federal Southeast Regional Climate Center at the University of North Carolina.

That's because Florida is No. 1 in so many factors

Florida more vulnerable to twisters than Midwest

that make tornadoes more risky: mobile homes, the elderly and the poor, said center director Charles Konrad II, who headed the new work. "People are just much more vulnerable in a mobile home than they are in a regular home," Konrad said. Florida's death rate of 2.4 deaths per 100 miles of tornado ground track is more than two-and-a-half times that of Oklahoma and nearly five times that of Kansas.

Along with Florida, Dixie Alley - including Arkansas, Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, western parts of the Carolinas - is where "more people die from tornadoes" than anywhere else in the world, said Konrad. Three years ago, a

four-day outbreak of more than 200 tornadoes killed 316 people in Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia.

Florida doesn't get as many tornadoes as Oklahoma and they aren't as strong, but when Florida does get them, "people are especially vulnerable," Konrad said. He presented the research at an American Meteorological Society meeting in Colorado this week.

Konrad's work makes sense and fits with earlier research on tornado fatalities, said Florida State University meteorology professor James Elsner and Barb Mayes Boustedt, a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration meteorologist and tornado chaser.

Visibility is another problem for tornadoes in the Southeast. Because of atmospheric conditions, the region tends to get more tornadoes at night, making them harder to see, Konrad said. It also means some people may be asleep and miss warnings.

The South also has more trees and buildings to block the view of oncoming tornadoes, Konrad said. And they also tend to come from low-hanging clouds, making them harder to see.

Florida tends to get tornadoes more in the winter, while the Southeast tornado season is February through April, Konrad said. The Midwest generally sees them in the spring and summer.

A lost Cole Porter musical to be staged in NYC

MARK KENNEDY
AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — For the first time later this month, a few lucky people will get to hear what no one in America has — a collection of lost Cole Porter songs.

The one-night-only June 27 premiere of "The Ambassador Revue" at The Town Hall near Times Square will mark the first time the 1929 show has ever been staged outside Paris.

"Just when you think you've heard all of Cole Porter's songs, here are 20 new ones for people to really have fun with," says Grammy Award-winning bandleader Vince Giordano, who arranged the show and will sing with his band the Nighthawks. "It's really thrilling."

The lost show — a revue with individual singers, tap dancers and showgirls akin to the current Broadway hit "After Midnight" — was written at the beginning of Porter's career and has hints of his combination of witty lyrics and singable melodies.

"They're fun. There's not a classic, I don't think. But

there are the saucy lyrics, the double entendres. There are some romantic ballads and some funny songs," says author and musical theater historian Ken Bloom, who will direct the revue. "It's typical Porter on his way to becoming great Porter. You can see everything that's going to come in just a year or two." The variety show will feature Tom Wopat singing a few songs and the veteran of such Broadway shows as "The Trip to Bountiful" and "Catch Me If You Can" said the prospect is exciting. "I'm just proud to be a part of it and it'll be a lot of fun. It will be revealing in many ways, I'm sure," said Wopat, who did "Kiss Me Kate" in summer stock. "It sheds some light on his process."

The original show was staged at the Ambassadeurs nightclub near the Champs-Elysees. It was performed in English by American singers including Morton Downey and Evelyn Hoey. Band leader Fred Waring was also there and, intriguingly, so was George Gershwin's sister, Frances,

who sang her brother's songs at the piano.

It ran for a few months and then disappeared, with none of the music published in America. Porter would later return to America and go on to write hit songs like "What Is This Thing Called Love," "Night and Day," "I Get a Kick Out of You," "You're the Top" and "Begin the Beguine." The variety show slipped into obscurity, with many Porter experts giving up on ever finding its music. □

This circa 1910 file photo shows American songwriter Cole Porter. A few lucky people will get to hear what no one in America has — a collection of lost Cole Porter songs. Associated Press



James Franco to make stage directing debut

MARK KENNEDY
AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — James Franco is adding another notch to his expansive résumé — stage director. Rattlestick Playwrights Theater said Monday that Franco will direct Robert Boswell's world premiere play "The Long Shrift" from July 7-Aug. 23. The off-Broadway job will coincide with Franco's current one on Broadway as an actor in "Of Mice and Men."

Franco has seemingly been dipping his toe into every element of show business, from acting in TV and films like "Pineapple Express" and "Spider-Man" to screenwriting and producing, or writing a novel and being an artist.

He made his Broadway debut this spring with Chris



In this Aug. 31, 2013 file photo, actor and director James Franco poses for photographers on the red carpet for the screening of the film "Child Of God" at the 70th edition of the Venice Film Festival in Venice, Italy. Associated Press

O'Dowd playing two tragic migrant workers trying to make their way through the aftermath of drought and the Depression in 1930s America. The play ends its run on July 27. □

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An unlikely harmony for Eastwood in 'Jersey Boys'

JAKE COYLE

AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Amid the swirl of an early 1960s party scene in Clint Eastwood's latest, an adaptation of "Jersey Boys," the hit Broadway musical about Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, a television screen flashes an unexpected face: young Clint, himself, in black-and-white.

The period-appropriate shot from the TV Western "Rawhide" — a wry Hitchcockian cameo — condenses in a moment the almost unfathomable breadth of Eastwood's career: fresh-faced cowboy to steadfast Oscar-winning director. Does it feel like a lifetime ago to Eastwood?

"Several lifetimes ago," chuckles the 84-year-old director. "Seeing myself in 1959 or '60 or '61 or whenever that episode was done, it was kind of like: Wow, I've traveled a long road since then."

That road — from Sergio Leone's spaghetti Westerns to Eastwood's own "Unforgiven," from "Make my day" to "Get off my lawn" — has made an unlikely detour down the New Jersey Turnpike. "Jersey Boys" — Eastwood's 12th film as director since turning 70 — only adds to what's by now one of the most remarkable late chapters of any filmmaker. How has he



This photo released by Warner Bros. shows director/producer, Clint Eastwood, left, and executive producer Frankie Valli on the set of Warner Bros. Pictures' musical "Jersey Boys," a Warner Bros. Pictures release.

Associated Press

done it?

"I just never let the old man in," said Eastwood in a recent interview. "I was always looking for new things to do. Rightfully or wrongly always thought I could do anything."

Such an attitude explains many of his accomplishments. Who else would have thought a tragic story about a female boxer ("Million Dollar Baby") could be such a success? Who else would have come to Iwo Jima to make the World War II drama "Flags of Our Fathers" and, out of curiosity and empathy, opted

to also make a film ("Letters from Iwo Jima") about the other side of the battle field?

And who would have expected the man — "a tall, chiseled piece of lumber, a totem pole with feet," as James Wolcott called him — mythologized as both The Man With No Name and Dirty Harry would be taken by the story of the guys behind "Big Girls Don't Cry"?

"The whole secret in life in any profession, regardless of whether it's entertainment or anything else, is just being interested," East-

wood says. "Are you interested in life? Are you interested in what's going on? Are you interested in new kinds of music?"

Eastwood, a piano player and jazz fan, has long been known for his passion for music. He made a film about Charlie Parker ("Bird"), sung in "Paint Your Wagon" and "Gran Torino," produced a documentary on Thelonious Monk ("Straight No Chaser") and has composed most of his scores over the last decade.

But the falsetto-rich pop confections of Valli (played

by John Lloyd Young, who originated the role on Broadway) and the Four Seasons would seem a higher register than Eastwood's natural pitch.

"So many times you'd look off to the wings or even between shots and see him standing there trying to figure it out for himself, going (in a high voice) 'Ooooo,'" says Michael Lomenda, who plays the Four Seasons' Nick Massi in the film. Though the "Jersey Boys" sensation on Broadway immediately brought interest from Hollywood, earlier adaption attempts flat-lined before Eastwood revived it with Warner Bros.

"I couldn't understand quite why after nine years on Broadway, somebody didn't want to do it," says Eastwood.

Eastwood favored a faithful adaptation written by the musical's writers, Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice, and cast veterans of the Broadway and touring productions over more famous options. Erich Bergen, who plays songwriter Bob Gaudio, and Lomenda both come from touring shows. Vincent Piazza of HBO's "Boardwalk Empire" was the lone outsider.

"We knew there was no chance in hell it would be turned into fluff," Young says of hearing that Eastwood would direct "Jersey Boys." □

Debut novel by Lisa Howorth is a Southern mosaic

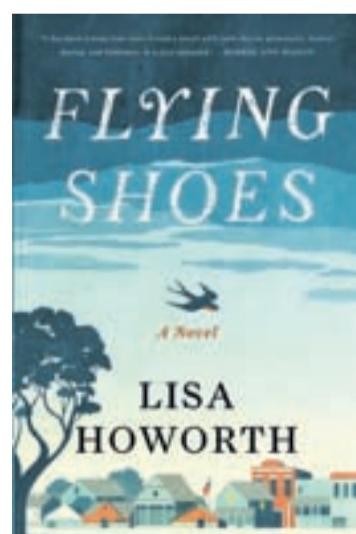
KENDAL WEAVER

There are many good reasons to read and enjoy "Flying Shoes."

Associated Press

For one, it is the debut novel of Lisa Howorth, a much revered stalwart of the literary South. She is the founder, with her husband, Richard, of Square Books, a venerable independent bookstore that took a perch on the town square in Oxford, Mississippi, in 1979.

After all these years of promoting and befriending a broad cast of authors both famous and fledgling, Howorth now offers a book of



This book cover image released by Bloomsbury shows "Flying Shoes," by Lisa Howorth.

Associated Press

her own. There is a measure of celebration in her arrival as a novelist.

And how fares the book itself?

Its central character, Mary Byrd Thornton, is a refreshing creation. She's bright and brassy, caring but nonconformist, a Southern woman with two school-age children, a dutiful husband, an eclectic circle of friends and maybe an oddball lover on the side.

Mary Byrd, as she's most often called, has a lot on her mind. Flowers, plants and shrubs. Family history. Criminal investigations, old and new.

On one level, the book is a form of meditation, through fiction, of Howorth's loss of her young stepbrother in a molestation and murder many years ago. The crime occurred when Howorth was 15, and even after decades it has never been solved.

As the novel opens, Mary Byrd learns that the long-dormant probe into the killing of her 9-year-old stepbrother has been reopened and a suspect very likely will be prosecuted. Mary Byrd lives in a Mississippi university town — think Oxford — and will need to travel to Virginia to meet

with the cold case detective.

This is the thread of a plot that carries the narrative, but it often is lost as Mary Byrd's attention wanders and Howorth gives center stage to various secondary characters and events. For some readers, this can be frustrating.

Long digressions can put a drag on the pace of the story.

But Howorth writes with real flair. Her riff on Mary Byrd's fear of flying is hilarious. In the space of a few pages she touches on every tic in the neurotic's bag of flight phobias. □

The Big Burn



DAVID BROOKS

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When the United States invaded Iraq in 2003, it effectively destroyed the Iraqi government. Slowly learning from that mistake, the U.S. spent the next eight years in a costly round of state-building. As Dexter Filkins, who covered the war for The New York Times, wrote in a blog post this week for The New Yorker, "By 2011, by any reasonable measure, the Americans had made a lot of headway but were not finished with the job."

The Iraqi army was performing more professionally. U.S. diplomats rode herd on Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki to restrain his sectarian impulses. U.S. generals would threaten to physically block Iraqi troop movements if al-Maliki ordered any action that seemed likely to polarize the nation.

We'll never know if all this effort and progress could have led to a self-sustaining, stable Iraq. Before the country was close to ready, the Obama administration took off the training wheels by not seriously negotiating the NATO status of forces agreement that would have maintained some smaller U.S. presence.

The administration didn't begin negotiations on the treaty until a few months before U.S. troops would have to start their withdrawal. The administration increased the demands. As Filkins writes, "The negotiations between Obama and Maliki fell apart, in no small measure because of lack of engagement by the White House."

U.S. troops left in 2011. President Barack Obama said the Iraq war was over. Administration officials foresaw nothing worse than a low-boil insurgency in the region. Almost immediately things began to deteriorate. There were no advisers left to restrain al-Maliki's sectarian tendencies. The U.S. efforts to professionalize the Iraqi army came undone.

This slide toward civil war was predicted, not only by Sens. John McCain and Lindsey Graham and writers like Max Boot, but also within the military. The resurgent sectarian violence gave fuel to fears that the entire region might be engaged in one big war, a sprawling Sunni-Shiite conflict that would cross borders and engulf tens of millions.

This slide toward chaos was exacerbated by the civil war in Syria, which worsened at about the same time. Two nations, both sitting astride the Sunni-Shiite fault line, were growing consumed by sectarian violence, while the rest of the region looked on, hatreds

rising.

The same voices that warned about the hasty Iraq withdrawal urged Obama to strengthen the moderates in Syria. They were joined in this fight by a contingent in the State Department. But little was done. The moderate opposition floundered. The death toll surged. The radical terror force ISIL, for the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, enjoyed a safe haven from which to operate, organize and recruit. Obama adopted a cautious posture, arguing that the biggest harm to the nation comes when the U.S. overreaches. American power retrenched. The American people, on both left and right, decided they could hide from the world.

And now the fears of one really big war seem to be coming true. The ISIL serves as a de facto government in growing areas of Syria and Iraq. Extremist armies are routing the official Iraqi army, even though they are outmanned by as many as 15 to 1. Iraq is in danger of becoming a non-nation.

Andrew White is a Christian aid worker in Iraq, working on reconciliation. On his blog, he reports that the nation "is now in its worst crisis since the 2003 war." ISIL, a group that does not even see al-Qaida as extreme enough, has moved into Mosul, he says, adding, "It has totally taken control, destroyed all government departments. Allowed all prisoners out of prisons. Killed countless numbers of people. There are bodies over the streets."

Meanwhile, autocrats around the region are preparing to manipulate a wider conflagration. The Pakistani Taliban is lighting up their corner of the world. Yemen and Libya are anarchic. Radical jihadis have the momentum as thousands of potential recruits must recognize.

We now have two administrations in a row that committed their worst foreign policy blunders in Iraq. By withdrawing too quickly from Iraq, by failing to build on the surge, the Obama administration has made some similar mistakes made during the early administration of George W. Bush, except in reverse. The dangers of U.S. underreach have been lavishly and horrifically displayed.

It is not too late to help Syrian moderates. In Iraq, the answer is not to send troops back in. It is to provide al-Maliki help in exchange for concrete measures to reduce sectarian tensions. The Iraqi government could empower regional governments, acknowledging the nation's diversity. Al-Maliki could re-professionalize the army. The constitution could impose term limits on prime ministers.

But these provisions would require a more forward-leaning U.S. posture around the world, an awareness that sometimes a U.S.-created vacuum can be ruinous. The president says his doctrine is don't do stupid stuff. Sometimes withdrawal is the stupidest thing of all. □



In Washington, The Fix Isn't In

PAUL KRUGMAN
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How big a deal is the surprise primary defeat of Rep. Eric Cantor, the House majority leader? Very. Movement conservatism, which dominated American politics from the election of Ronald Reagan to the election of Barack Obama - and which many pundits thought could make a comeback this year - is unraveling before our eyes.

I don't mean that conservatism in general is dying. But what I and others mean by "movement conservatism," a term I think I learned from historian Rick Perlstein, is something more specific: an interlocking set of institutions and alliances that won elections by stoking cultural and racial anxiety but used these victories mainly to push an elitist economic agenda, meanwhile providing a support network for political and ideological loyalists.

By rejecting Cantor, the Republican base showed that it has gotten wise to the electoral bait and switch, and, by his fall, Cantor showed that the support network can no longer guarantee job security. For around three decades, the conservative fix was in; but no more.

To see what I mean by bait and switch, think about what happened in 2004. George W. Bush won re-election by posing as a champion of national security and traditional values - as I like to say, he ran as America's defender against gay-married ter-

rorists - then turned immediately to his real priority: privatizing Social Security. It was the perfect illustration of the strategy famously described in Thomas Frank's book "What's the Matter With Kansas?" in which Republicans would mobilize voters with social issues but invariably turn postelection to serving the interests of corporations and the 1 percent.

In return for this service, businesses and the wealthy provided both lavish financial support for right-minded (in both senses) politicians and a safety net - "wing-nut welfare" - for loyalists. In particular, there were always comfortable berths waiting for those who left office, voluntarily or otherwise. There were lobbying jobs; there were commentator spots at Fox News and elsewhere (two former Bush speechwriters are now Washington Post columnists); there were "research" positions (after losing his Senate seat, Rick Santorum became director of the "America's Enemies" program at a think tank supported by the Koch brothers, among others). The combination of a successful electoral strategy and the safety net made being a conservative loyalist a seemingly low-risk professional path. The cause was radical, but the people it recruited tended increasingly to be apparatchiks, motivated more by careerism than by conviction.

That's certainly the impression Cantor conveyed. I've never heard him described as inspiring. His political rhetoric was nasty but low-energy, and often amazingly tone-deaf. You may recall, for example, that in 2012 he chose to celebrate Labor Day with a Twitter post honoring business owners. But he was evidently very good at playing the inside game.

It turns out, however, that this is no longer enough. We don't know exactly why he lost his pri-

mary, but it seems clear that Republican base voters didn't trust him to serve their priorities as opposed to those of corporate interests (and they were probably right). And the specific issue that loomed largest, immigration, also happens to be one on which the divergence between the base and the party elite is wide. It's not just that the elite believes that it must find a way to reach Hispanics, whom the base loathes. There's also an inherent conflict between the base's nativism and the corporate desire for abundant, cheap labor.

And while Cantor won't go hungry - he'll surely find a comfortable niche on K Street - the humiliation of his fall is a warning that becoming a conservative apparatchik isn't the safe career choice it once seemed.

So whither movement conservatism? Before the Virginia upset, there was a widespread media narrative to the effect that the Republican establishment was regaining control from the Tea Party, which was really a claim that good old-fashioned movement conservatism was on its way back. In reality, however,

establishment figures who won primaries did so only by reinventing themselves as extremists. And Cantor's defeat shows that lip service to extremism isn't enough; the base needs to believe that you really mean it.

In the long run - which probably begins in 2016 - this will be bad news for the GOP, because the party is moving right on social issues at a time when the country at large is moving left. (Think about how quickly the ground has shifted on gay marriage.) Meanwhile, however,

what we're looking at is a party that will be even more extreme, even less interested in participating in normal governance, than it has been since 2008. An ugly political scene is about to get even uglier. □

After Ugly Buildup, Time for Jogo Bonito in Brazil

GERALD IMRAY

AP Sports Writer

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — In the buildup to the World Cup, the Brazilian football catchphrase of "Jogo Bonito" — The Beautiful Game — was drowned out by the bangs of frantic construction work and the shouts of angry protesters. Not now.

The football — it's been open, attacking and packed full of goals and great moments — is doing all the talking.

Neymar kicked Brazil into gear, Robin van Persie soared and scored with one of the most spectacular headers you'll see, and Argentine wizard Lionel Messi conjured up a little left-footed magic at the Maracana. Thomas Mueller hit a hat-trick for Germany, and the first round of group games isn't even done yet.

It's not just the big-name teams either. There was Costa Rica's pulsating comeback to sweep past a highly-rated Uruguay team and Switzerland's last-gasp winner over Ecuador.

"All the games we're watching, there's a lot of open play, there's a lot of beautiful goals. It's just wonderful to be here, isn't it?" Netherlands fan Paul Rolleman said as he walked — with a party-inspired hangover, he confessed — under perfect blue skies along Rio's famed Copacabana beach.

Half-expecting patched up stadiums and large street demonstrations, many worried that the return of the World Cup to the spiritual home of football after 64 years could be the most troubled in recent memory. But with a bunch of goals — 41 in 12 games after Germany's 4-0 win over Portugal on Monday — and no major backlash from protesters so far, it could turn out to be the best in over half a century.

"High-scoring games, this is what fans are waiting for," United States coach Jurgen Klinsmann said.

"They want to see goals." And they have. From Sao Paulo to Salvador, from Cuiaba in the vast Brazilian interior to the golden sands of Rio de Janeiro, the goals have flown in. The World Cup is averag-

its record five titles in Sweden in 1958.

There have been no draws in the first 12 games and only four teams out of the 24 who played failed to score. Jogo Bonito, first made famous by Pele, is

German fan Andre Lien said, adding with a sulk that he had to head back home for work on Tuesday following Germany's opener.

Brazil coach Luiz Felipe Scolari, previously defen-

of their formation switch with blisteringly fast, attacking play to blow away defending champion Spain 5-1.

Even Bosnia, the World Cup debutant, aggressively took the fight to Messi and Argentina — as coach Safet Susic promised they would.

"This is how we play football," he said. "We don't know any other way. And I don't want my players to play any other way."

The fans have reacted by filling stadiums or fan fests and embracing the carefree culture: A group of middle-aged German men in super-tight swimming costumes played football on Copacabana Monday morning before heading for the big screen TV.

Of course, it's still early days. Organizers can't let down their guard. There was a moment at Itaquerao Stadium in Sao Paulo last week when Brazil's opening night seemed to hang by a thread — or an electrical wire.

One section of the flood-lights flickered off, then on, then off again. Disaster loomed. The lights came back on, stayed on, and Neymar rescued Brazil with a double as the home favorite came back from 1-0 down to beat Croatia 3-1.

There have also been sporadic protests — police clashed with protesters not far from Rio's Maracana on Sunday night while Messi and Argentina beat Bosnia — and some logistical problems. In the northeastern city of Natal, torrential rain and flooding is threatening the World Cup experience.

But on the field, at least, the tournament has met the early challenge and more. Brazil's only worry is if the goal-happy World Cup can keep up this breathtaking pace for a month.

"It's a big party," Netherlands supporter Rolleman said while having fun on Copacabana beach. "But I do need to get some sleep now." □



Iranian and American soccer fans pose for a photo holding their national flags during a live broadcast of the soccer World Cup match between Iran and Nigeria, inside the FIFA Fan Fest area on Copacabana beach, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Monday, June 16, 2014.

(AP Photo/Leo Correa)



Soccer fans pose for a photo with a woman whose body is painted with Germany's national soccer team colors, at the end of a live broadcast of the World Cup match between Portugal and Germany, inside the FIFA Fan Fest area on Copacabana beach, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Monday, June 16, 2014.

(AP Photo/Leo Correa)